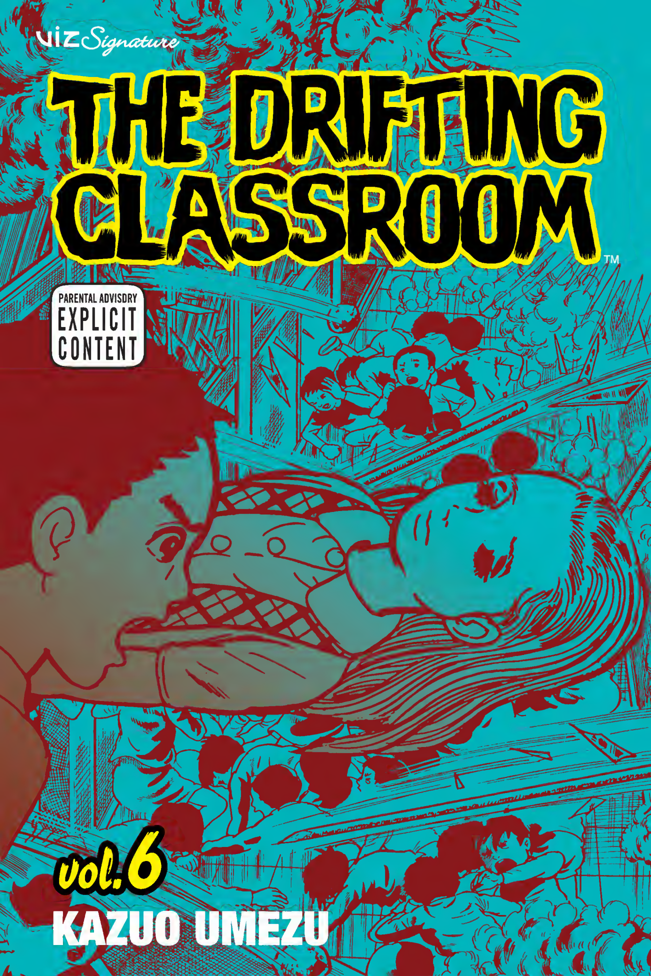
VIZ Signature

# THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM™



PARENTAL ADVISORY
EXPLICIT
CONTENT

vol. 6

KAZUO UMEZU

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Born in 1936, Kazuo Umezu is Japan's most respected and influential horror manga artist. Umezu began his artistic career at the age of 18, creating stories for both *shôjo* (girls) and *shonen* (boys) manga magazines, and working in an amazingly diverse range of genres. In Japan he is most famous for the gag manga *Makoto-chan* (1971), but his most ambitious works are horror and science fiction, including *The Drifting Classroom* (1972-1974), *My Name is Shingo* (1982-1986), *The Left Hand of God, the Right Hand of the Devil* (1986-1989) and *Fourteen* (1990-1995). His works have been adapted into anime and live-action films.

# THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM
# Vol. 6

## STORY AND ART BY KAZUO UMEZU

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**PARENTAL ADVISORY**
THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM is rated M for Mature and is recommended for mature readers. Contains strong language and graphic violence.

# THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM™

## vol. 6

KAZUO UMEZU

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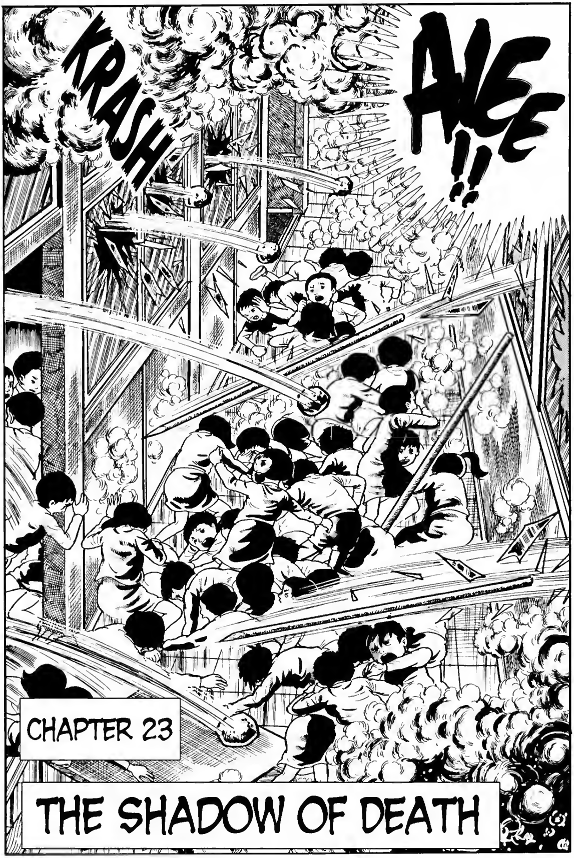
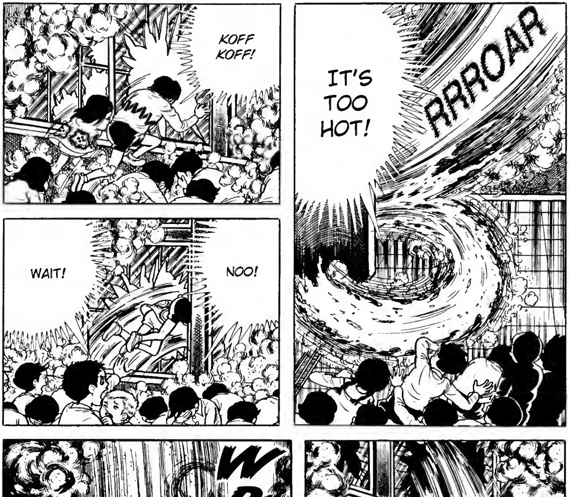
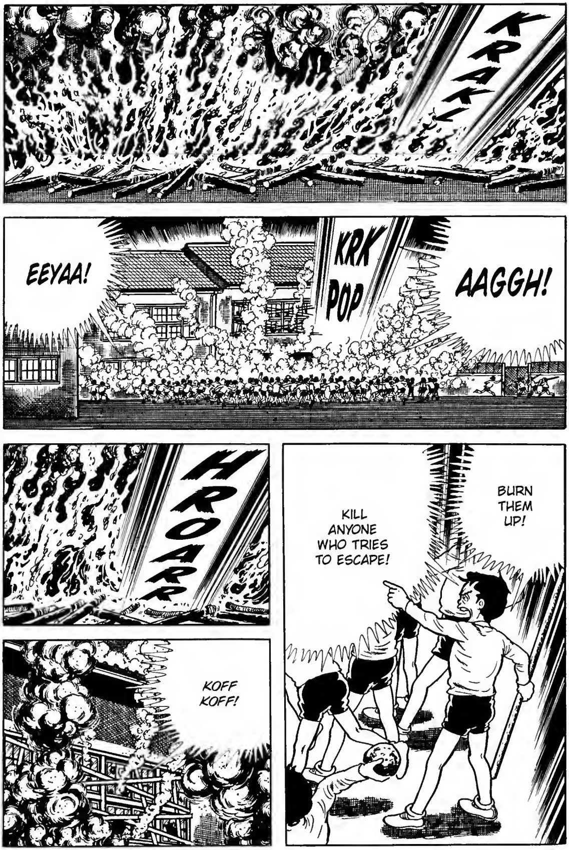
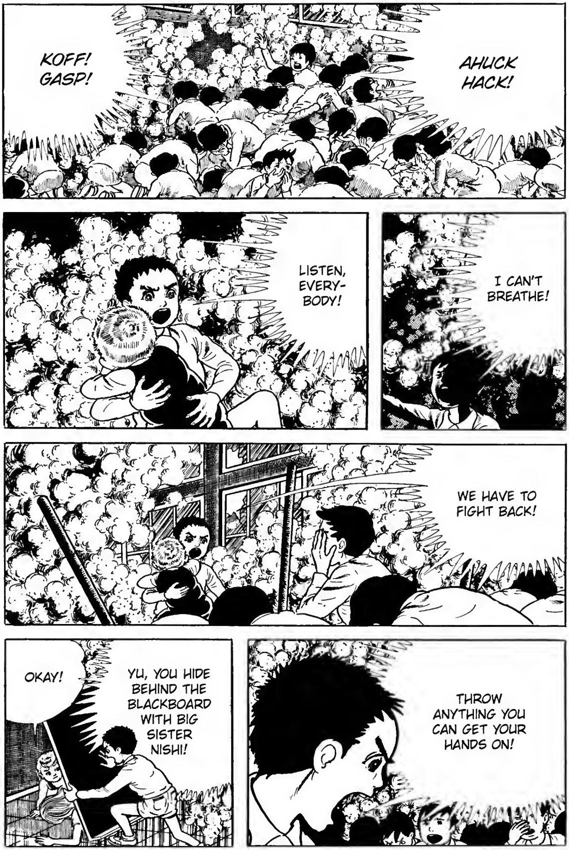
## CHAPTER 23

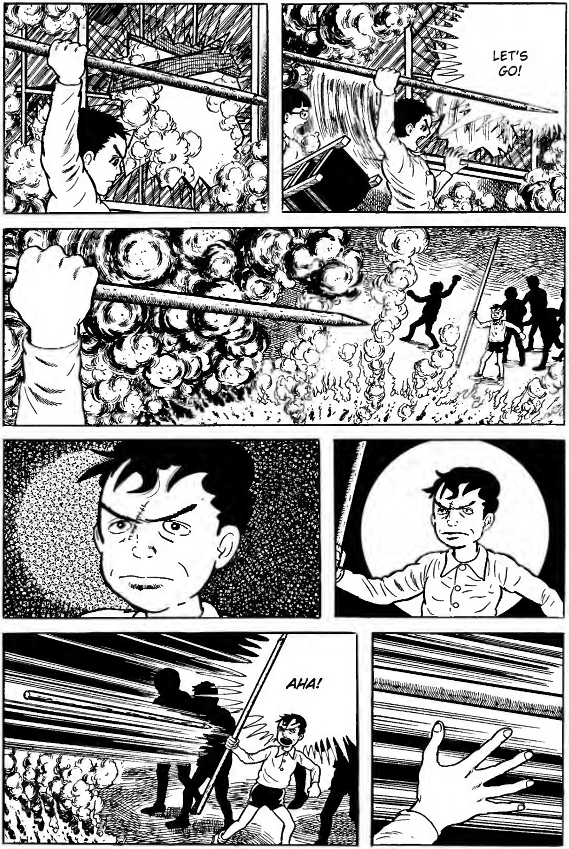
# THE SHADOW OF DEATH

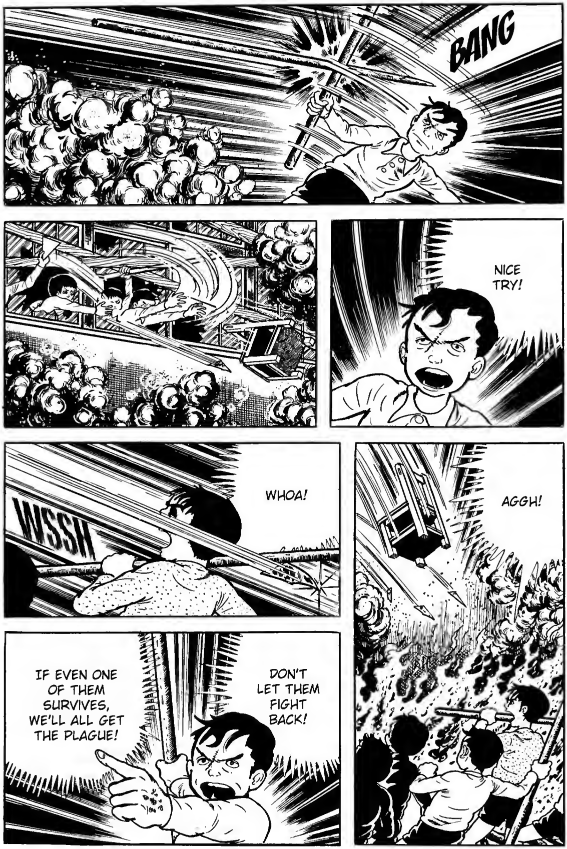


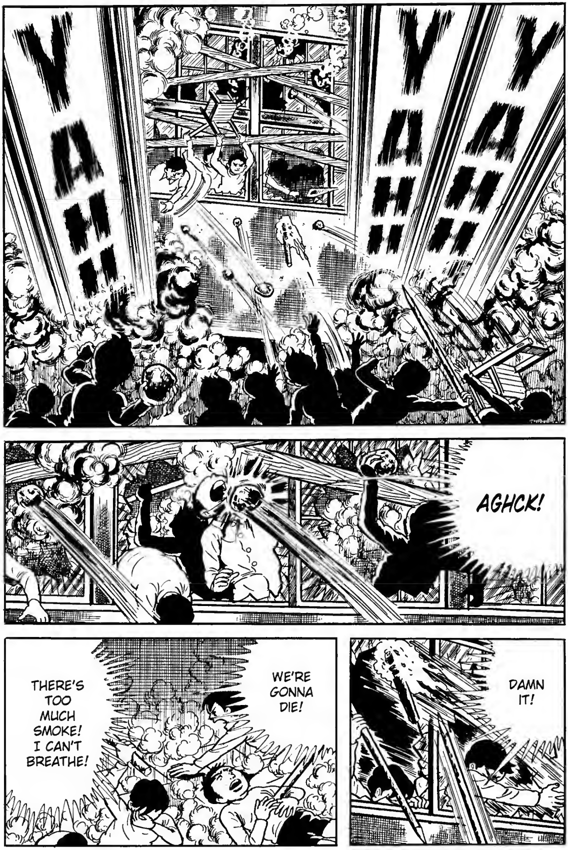

RRROAR
IT'S TOO HOT!
KOFF KOFF!
NOO!
WAIT!
WRSSH

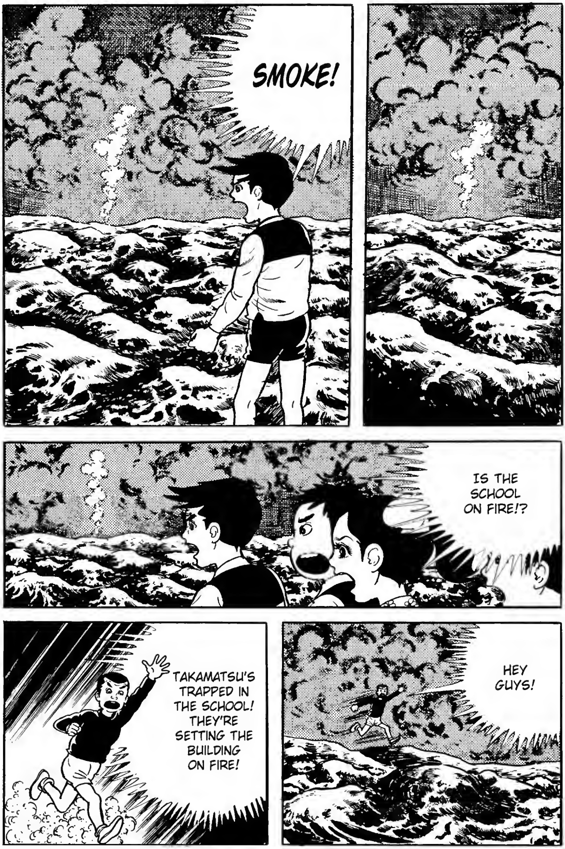

KRAKL
AAGGH!
KRK POP
EEYAA!
BURN THEM UP!
KILL ANYONE WHO TRIES TO ESCAPE!
HROARR
KOFF KOFF!

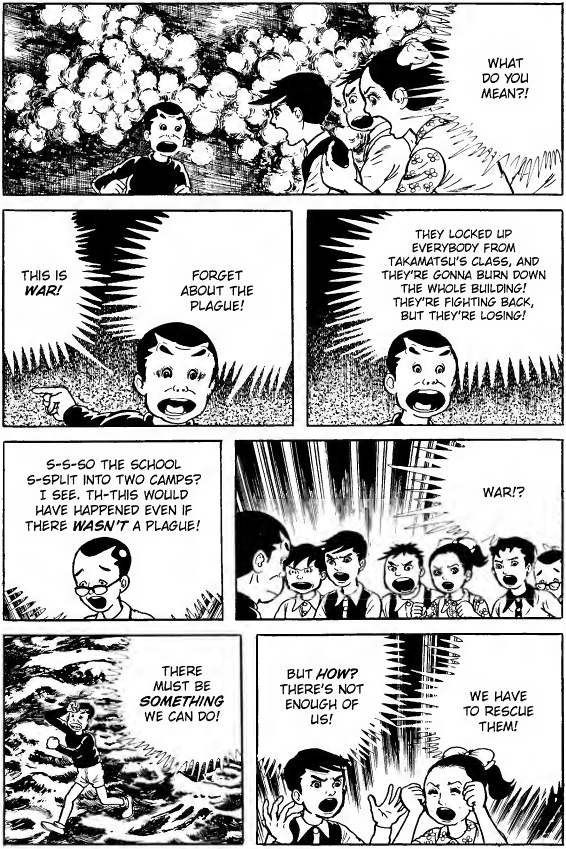

KOFF! GASP!
AHUCK HACK!
LISTEN, EVERYBODY!
I CAN'T BREATHE!
WE HAVE TO FIGHT BACK!
YU, YOU HIDE BEHIND THE BLACKBOARD WITH BIG SISTER NISHI!
OKAY!
THROW ANYTHING YOU CAN GET YOUR HANDS ON!

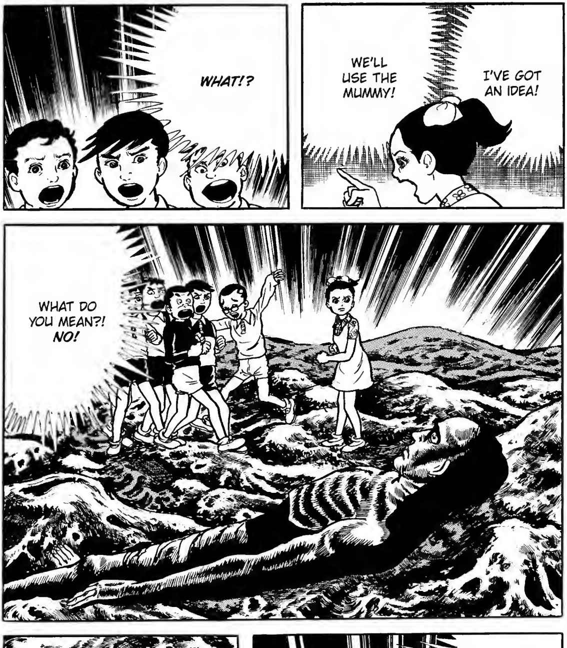

LET'S GO!
AHA!

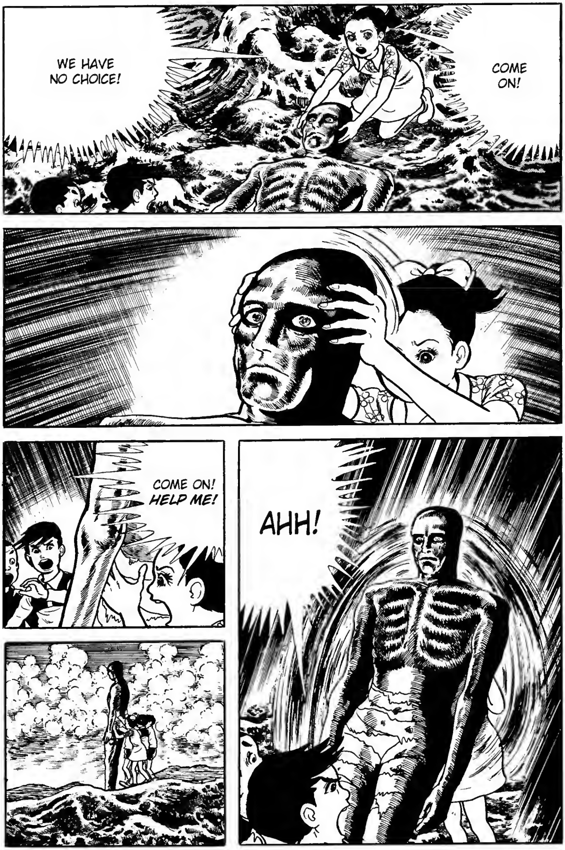

BANG
NICE TRY!
WSSH
WHOA!
AGGH!
IF EVEN ONE OF THEM SURVIVES, WE'LL ALL GET THE PLAGUE!
DON'T LET THEM FIGHT BACK!

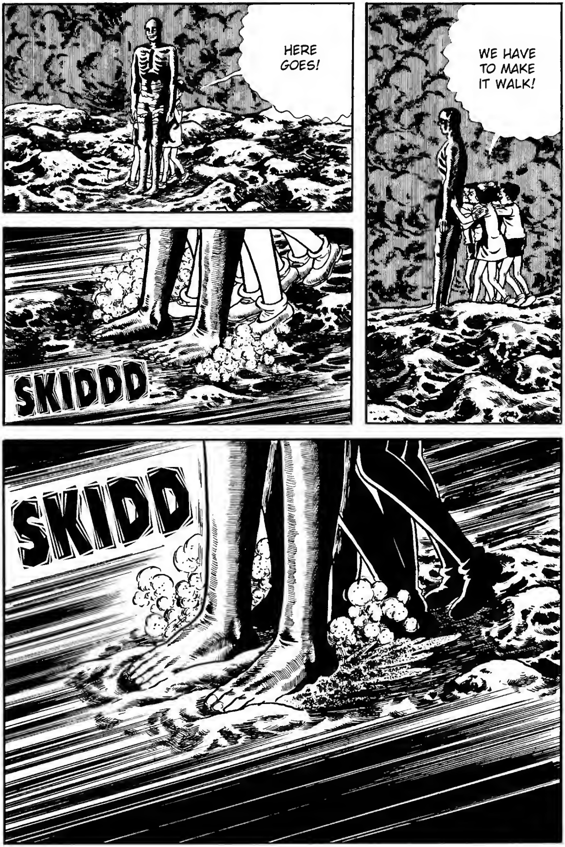

YAHH
YAHH
YAHH
AGHCK!
THERE'S TOO MUCH SMOKE! I CAN'T BREATHE!
WE'RE GONNA DIE!
DAMN IT!

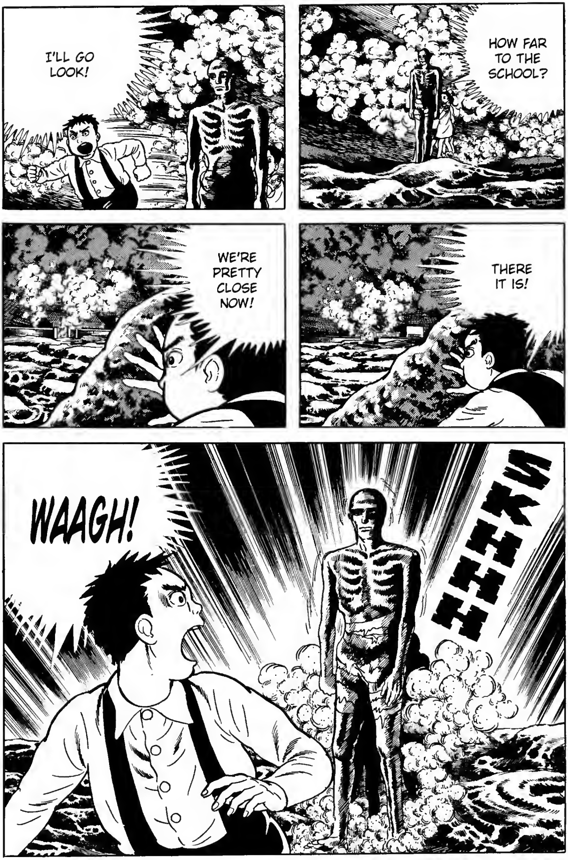

SMOKE!
IS THE SCHOOL ON FIRE!?
HEY GUYS!
TAKAMATSU'S TRAPPED IN THE SCHOOL! THEY'RE SETTING THE BUILDING ON FIRE!

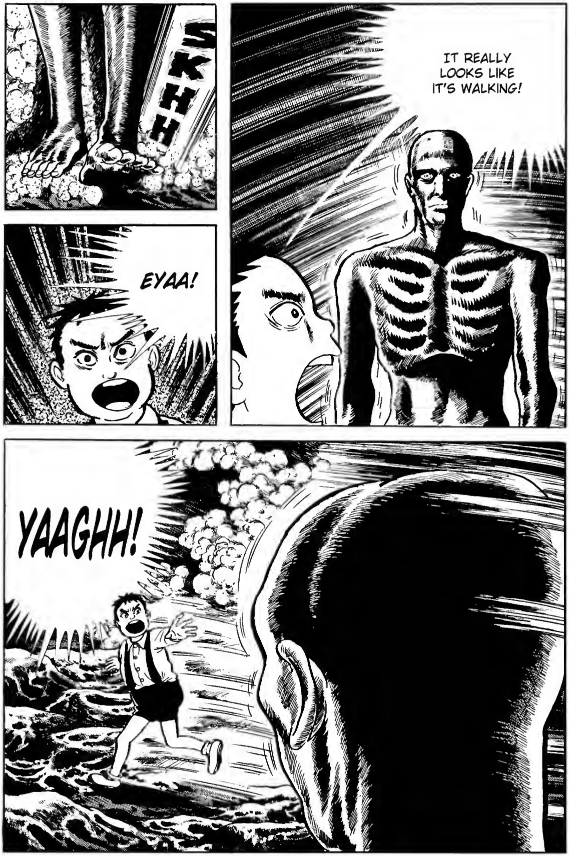

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!
THEY LOCKED UP EVERYBODY FROM TAKAMATSU'S CLASS, AND THEY'RE GONNA BURN DOWN THE WHOLE BUILDING! THEY'RE FIGHTING BACK, BUT THEY'RE LOSING!
FORGET ABOUT THE PLAGUE!
THIS IS *WAR!*
WAR!?
S-S-SO THE SCHOOL S-SPLIT INTO TWO CAMPS? I SEE. TH-THIS WOULD HAVE HAPPENED EVEN IF THERE *WASN'T* A PLAGUE!
WE HAVE TO RESCUE THEM!
BUT *HOW?* THERE'S NOT ENOUGH OF US!
THERE MUST BE *SOMETHING* WE CAN DO!

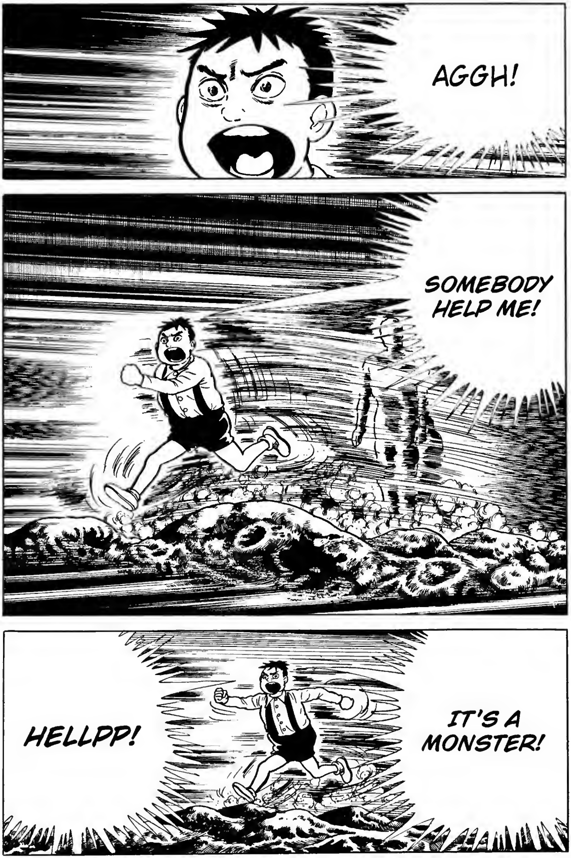

I'VE GOT AN IDEA!
WE'LL USE THE MUMMY!
*WHAT!?*
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?! *NO!*
I DON'T WANT TO TOUCH THAT THING!

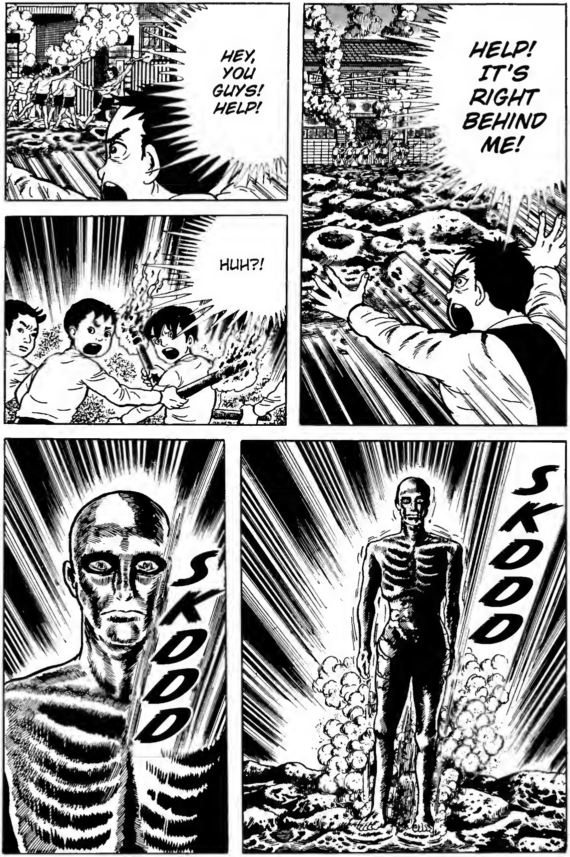

WE HAVE NO CHOICE!
COME ON!
COME ON! *HELP ME!*
AHH!

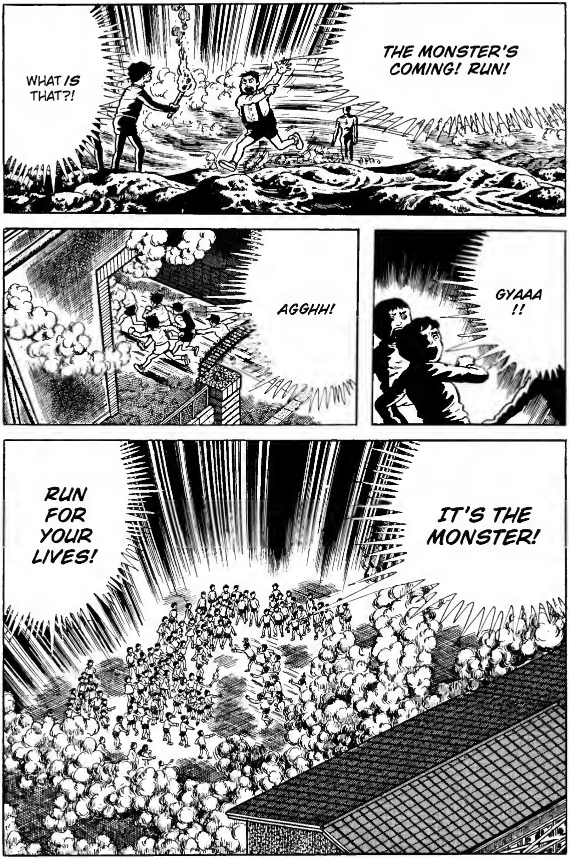

WE HAVE TO MAKE IT WALK!
HERE GOES!
SKIDDD
SKIDD

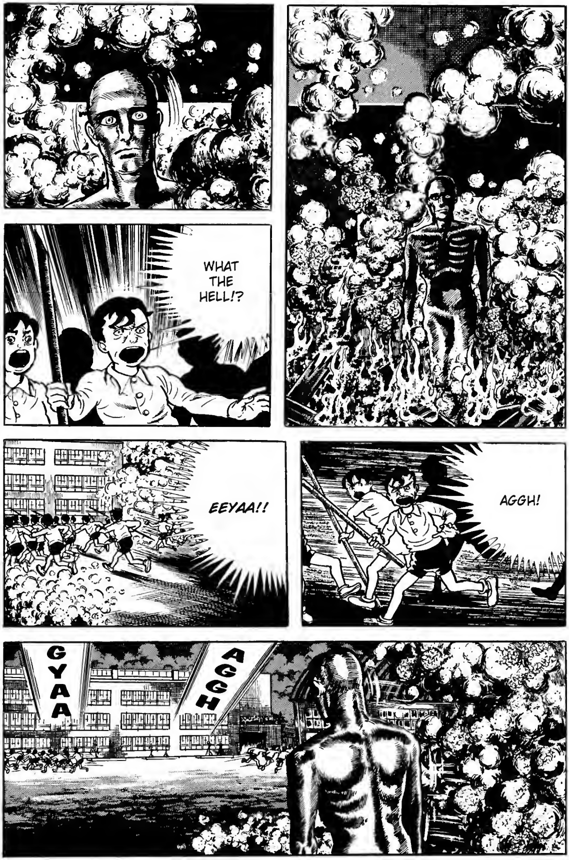

I'LL GO LOOK!
HOW FAR TO THE SCHOOL?
WE'RE PRETTY CLOSE NOW!
THERE IT IS!
WAAGH!
SKHHH

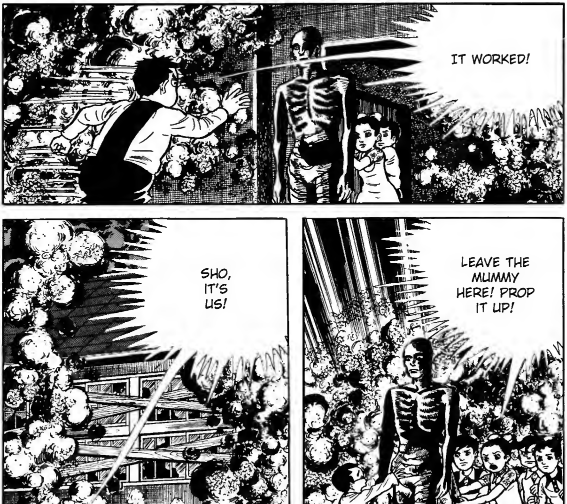

IT REALLY LOOKS LIKE IT'S WALKING!
SKHH
EYAA!
YAAGHH!

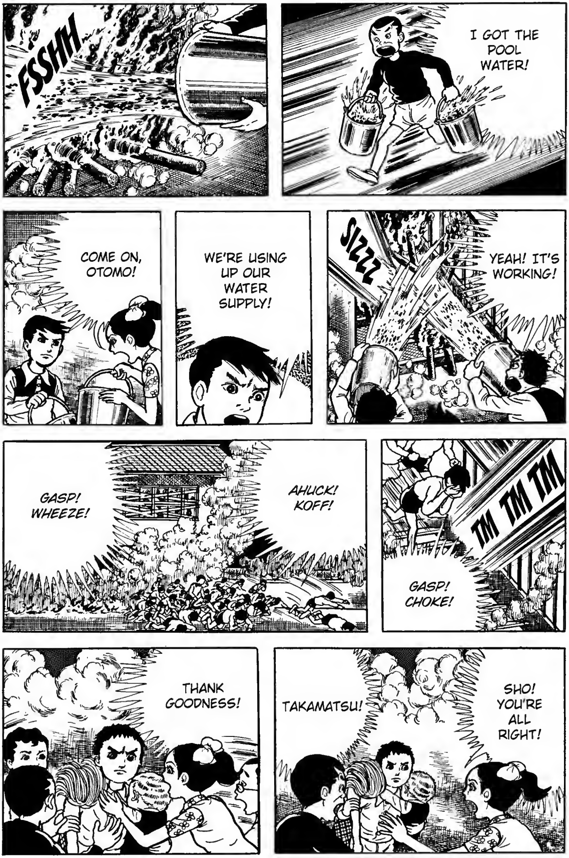

AGGH!
SOMEBODY HELP ME!
IT'S A MONSTER!
HELLPP!

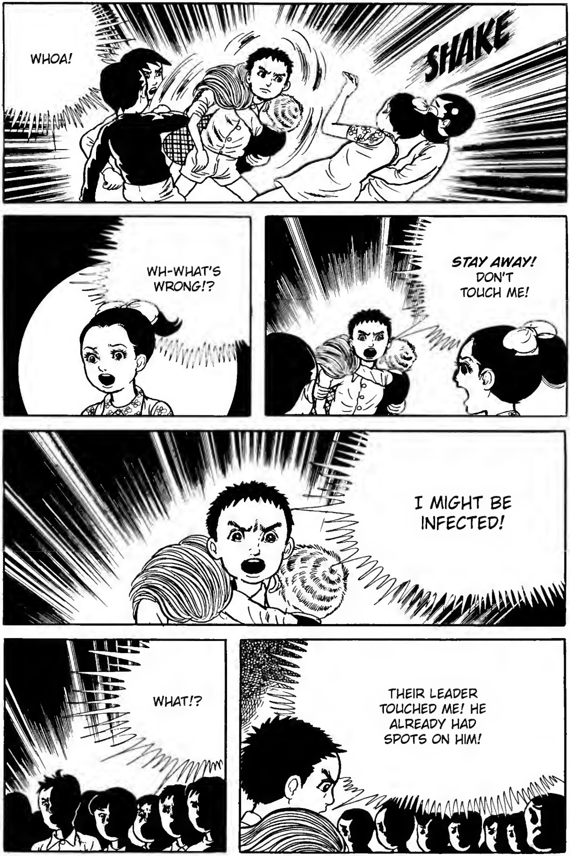

HEY, YOU GUYS! HELP!
HUH?!
HELP! IT'S RIGHT BEHIND ME!
SKDDD
SKDDD

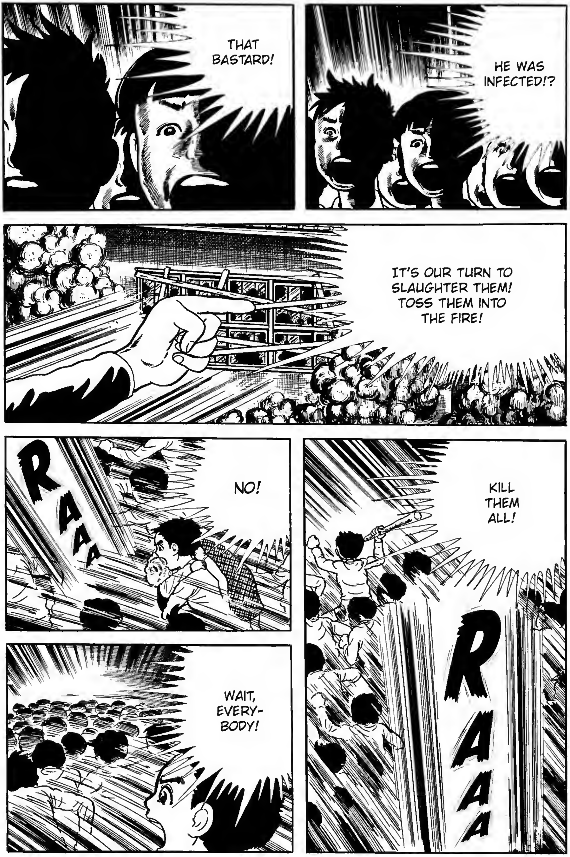

WHAT *IS* THAT?!
THE MONSTER'S COMING! RUN!
AGGHH!
GYAAA !!
RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!
IT'S THE MONSTER!

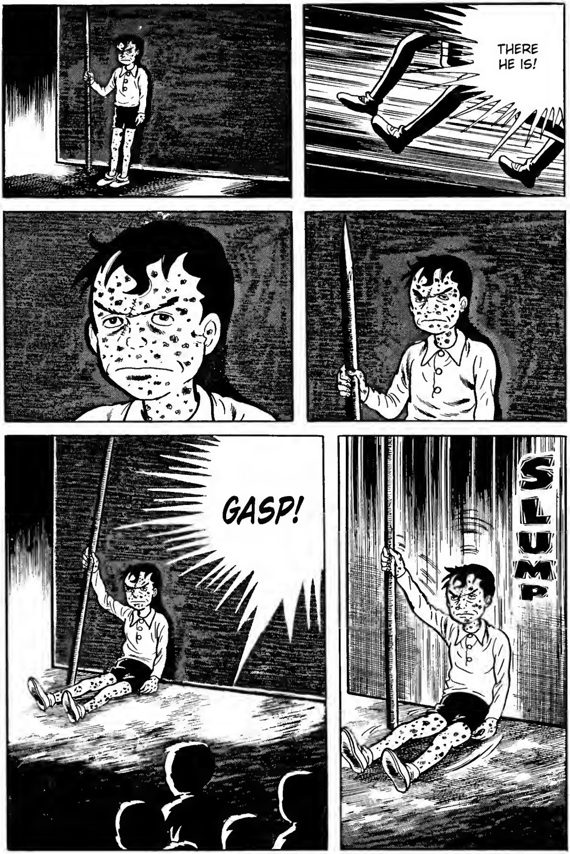

WHAT THE HELL!?
AGGH!
EEYAA!!
AGGH
GYAA

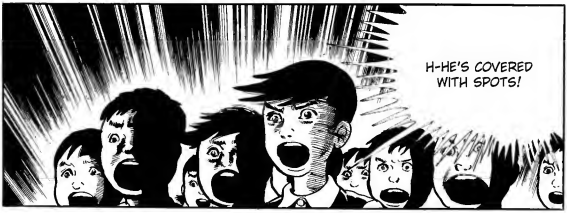

IT WORKED!
LEAVE THE MUMMY HERE! PROP IT UP!
SHO, IT'S US!
SAKI!
KOFF KOFF!
WE'LL PUT OUT THE FIRE ON THE STAIRS. LEAD EVERYONE OUT THIS WAY!
KA-KOFF! KOFF!

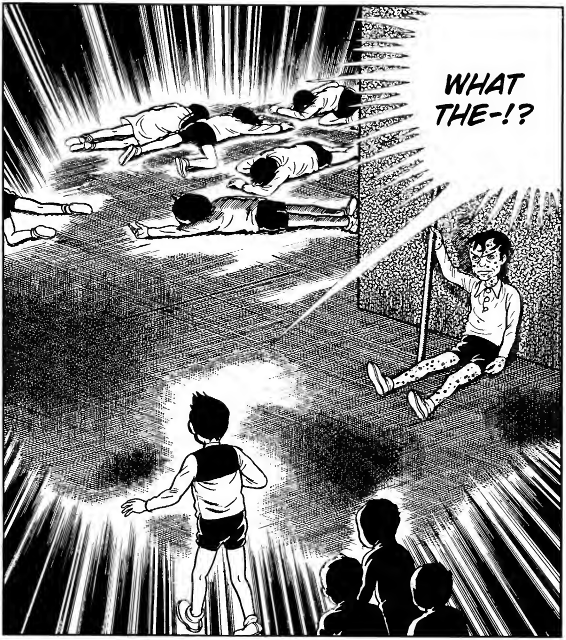

FSSHH
I GOT THE POOL WATER!
COME ON, OTOMO!
WE'RE USING UP OUR WATER SUPPLY!
SIZZZ
YEAH! IT'S WORKING!
GASP! WHEEZE!
AHUCK! KOFF!
TM TM TM
GASP! CHOKE!
THANK GOODNESS!
TAKAMATSU!
SHO! YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!

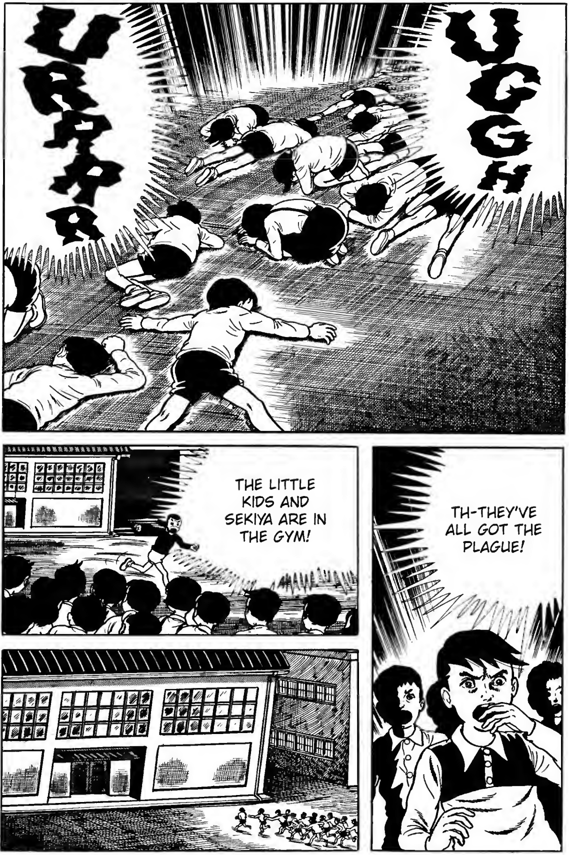

WHOA!
SHAKE
WH-WHAT'S WRONG!?
*STAY AWAY!* DON'T TOUCH ME!
I MIGHT BE INFECTED!
WHAT!?
THEIR LEADER TOUCHED ME! HE ALREADY HAD SPOTS ON HIM!

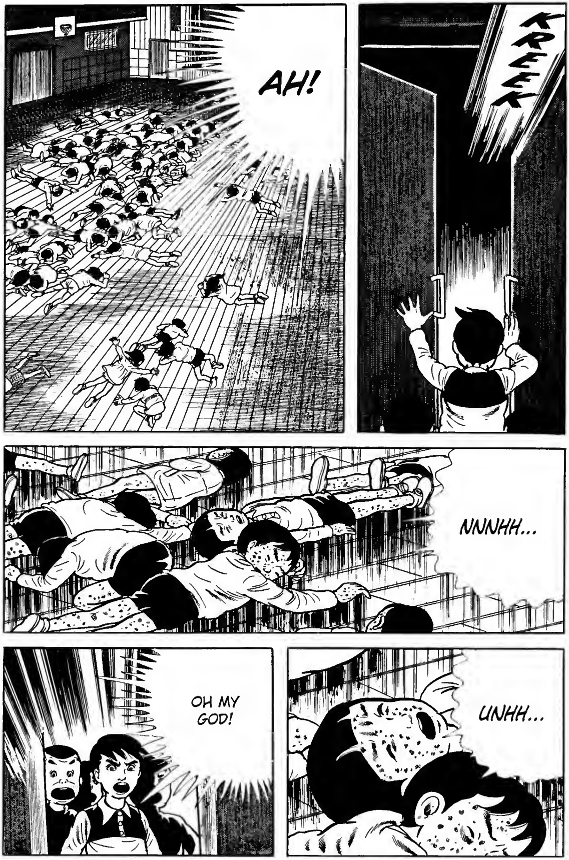

THAT BASTARD!
HE WAS INFECTED!?
IT'S OUR TURN TO SLAUGHTER THEM! TOSS THEM INTO THE FIRE!
RAAA
NO!
KILL THEM ALL!
RAAAA
WAIT, EVERYBODY!

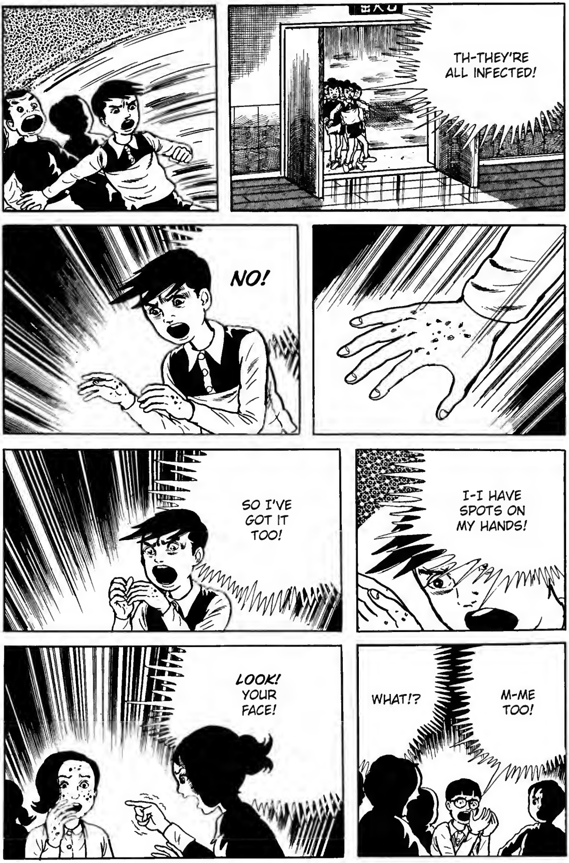

THERE HE IS!
GASP!
SLUMP

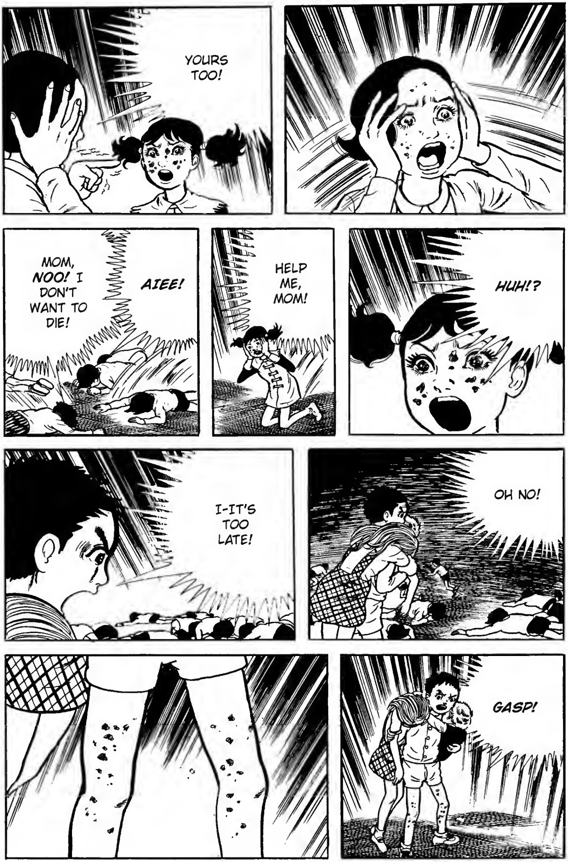

H-HE'S COVERED WITH SPOTS!

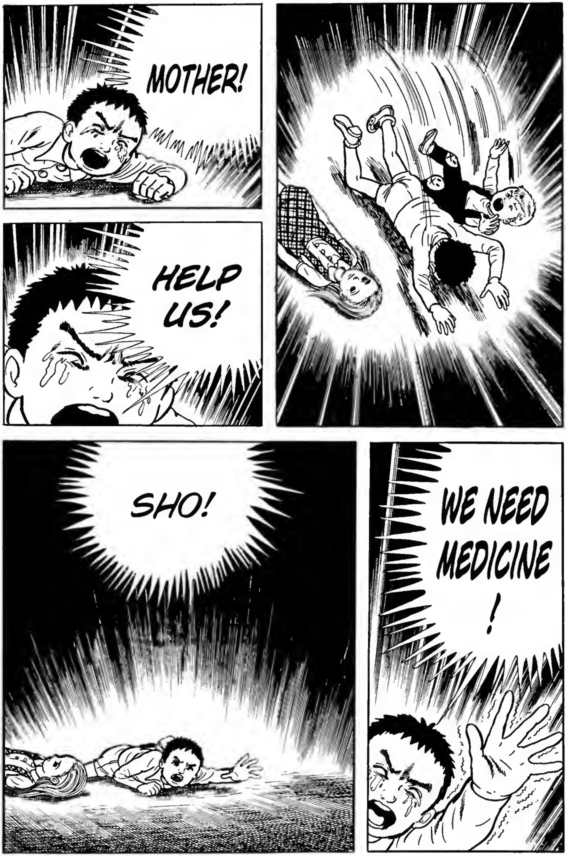

WHAT THE-!?

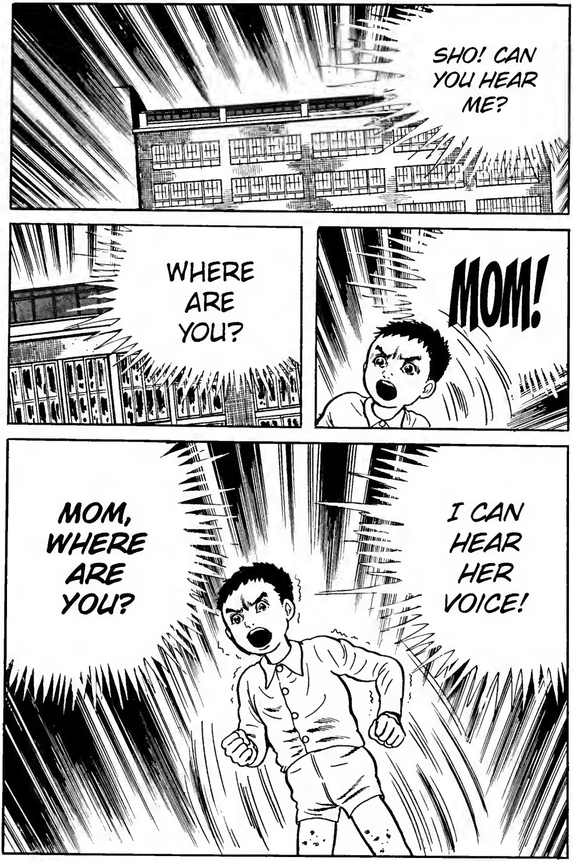

URRRR
UGGH
THE LITTLE KIDS AND SEKIYA ARE IN THE GYM!
TH-THEY'VE ALL GOT THE PLAGUE!

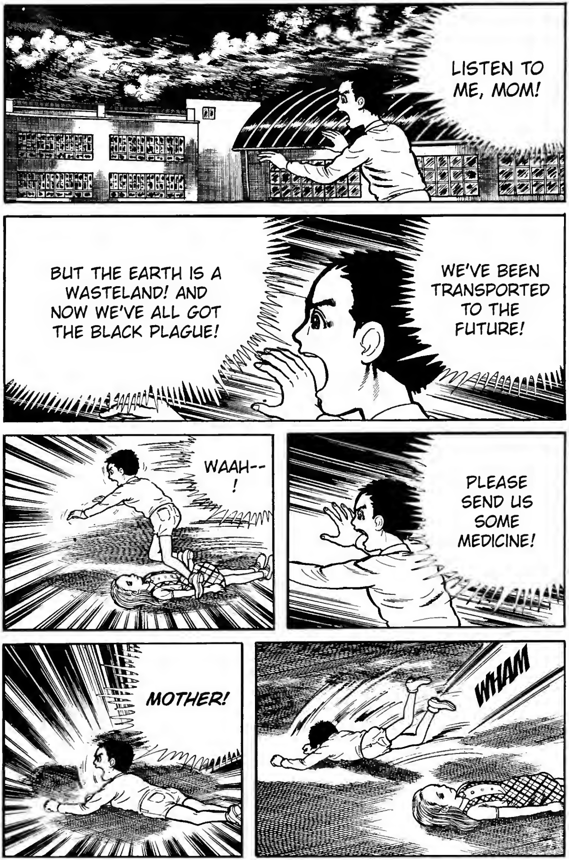

AH!
KREEK
NNNHH...
OH MY GOD!
UNHH...

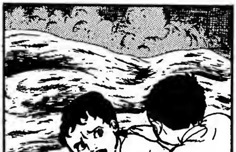

TH-THEY'RE ALL INFECTED!
NO!
SO I'VE GOT IT TOO!
I-I HAVE SPOTS ON MY HANDS!
LOOK! YOUR FACE!
WHAT!?
M-ME TOO!


YOURS TOO!
MOM, *NOO!* I DON'T WANT TO DIE!
*AIEE!*
HELP ME, MOM!
*HUH!?*
I-IT'S TOO LATE!
OH NO!
*GASP!*


MOTHER!
HELP US!
WE NEED MEDICINE!
SHO!

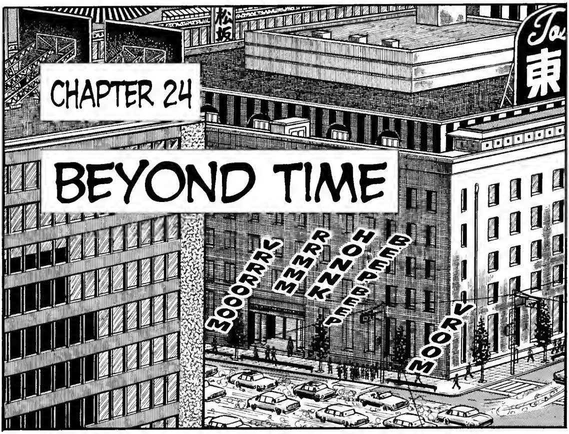

SHO! CAN YOU HEAR ME?
WHERE ARE YOU?
MOM!
MOM, WHERE ARE YOU?
I CAN HEAR HER VOICE!

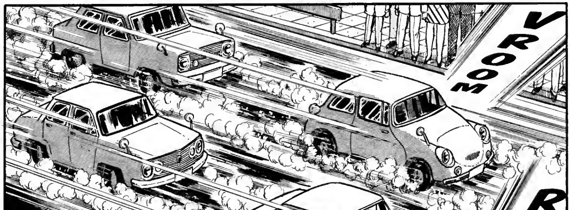

LISTEN TO ME, MOM!
WE'VE BEEN TRANSPORTED TO THE FUTURE!
BUT THE EARTH IS A WASTELAND! AND NOW WE'VE ALL GOT THE BLACK PLAGUE!
PLEASE SEND US SOME MEDICINE!
WAAH-- !
WHAM
*MOTHER!*

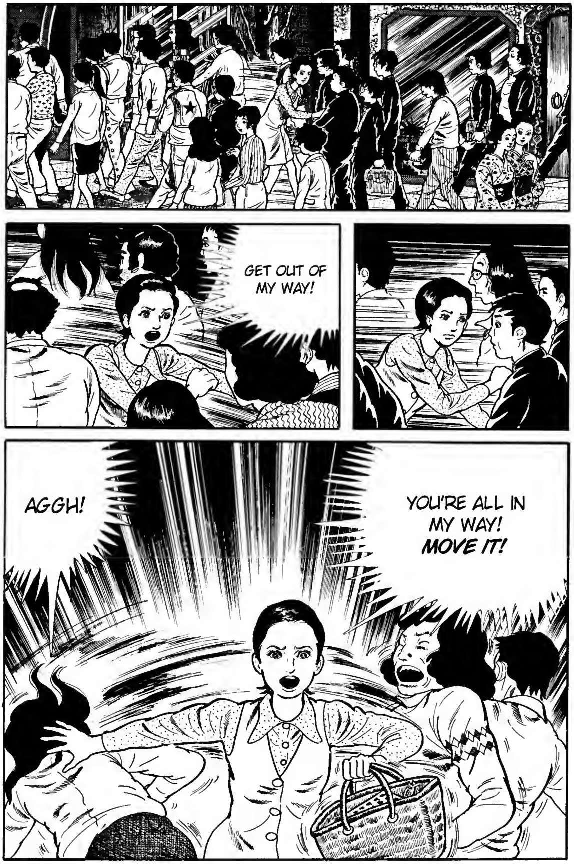


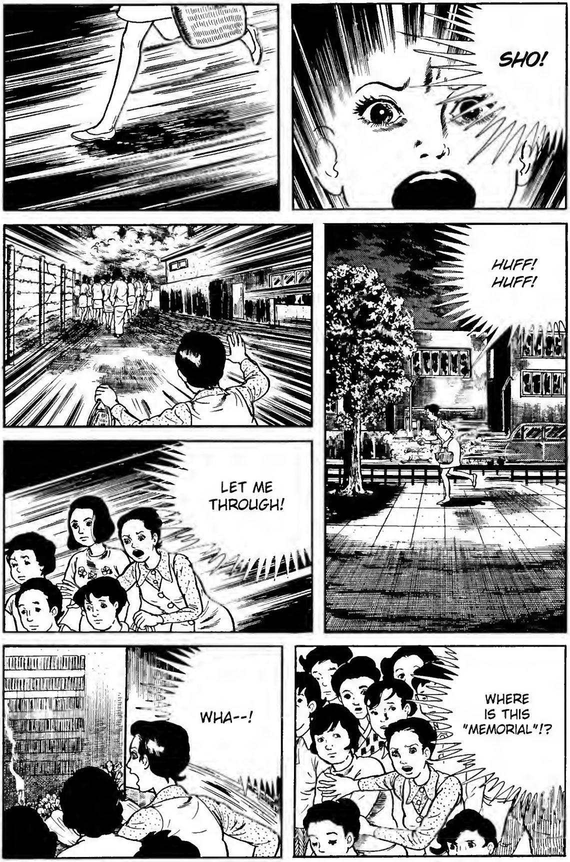
## CHAPTER 24

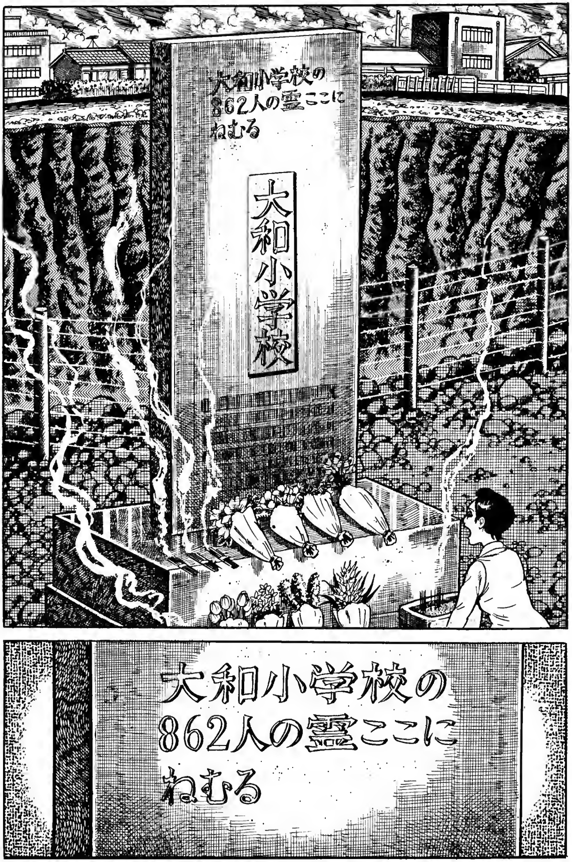
# BEYOND TIME

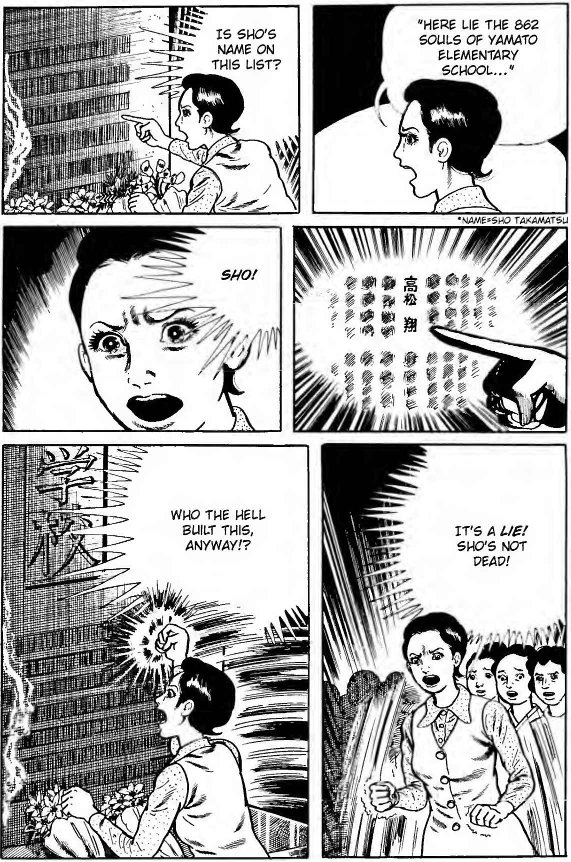

東
松坂
VROOOM
BEEPBEEP
HONNK
RRMMM
VRRROOOM


VROOOM
RR-RMM

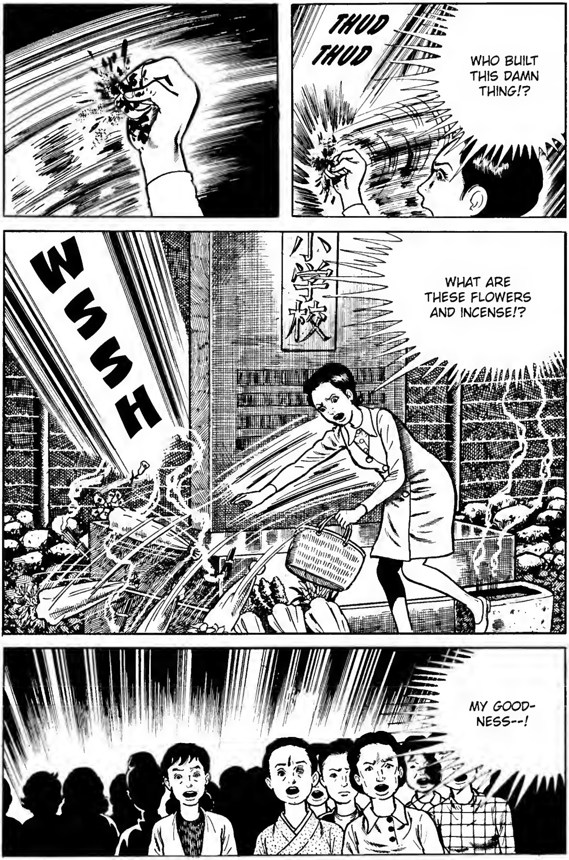

GET OUT OF MY WAY!
AGGH!
YOU'RE ALL IN MY WAY! *MOVE IT!*

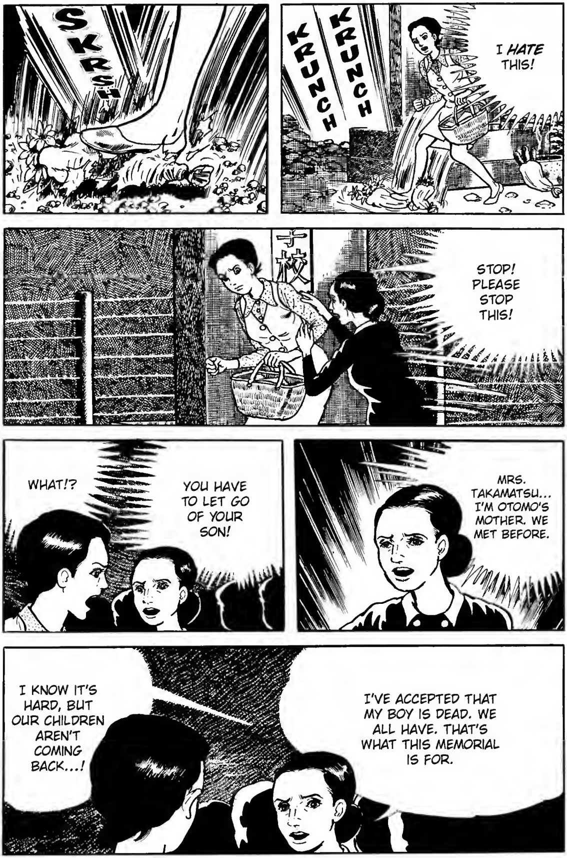

SHO!
HUFF! HUFF!
LET ME THROUGH!
WHA--!
WHERE IS THIS "MEMORIAL"!?

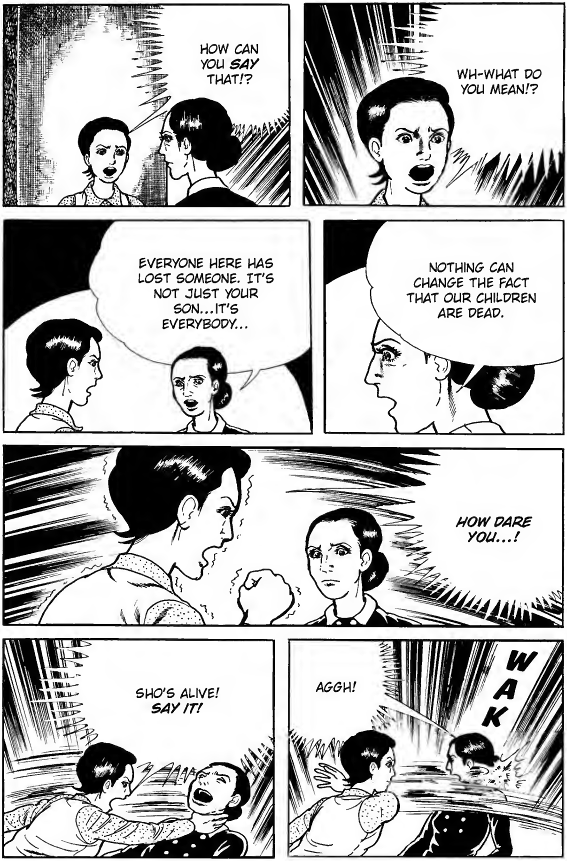

大和小学校の
862人の霊ここに
ねむる
大和小学校
大和小学校の
862人の霊ここに
ねむる

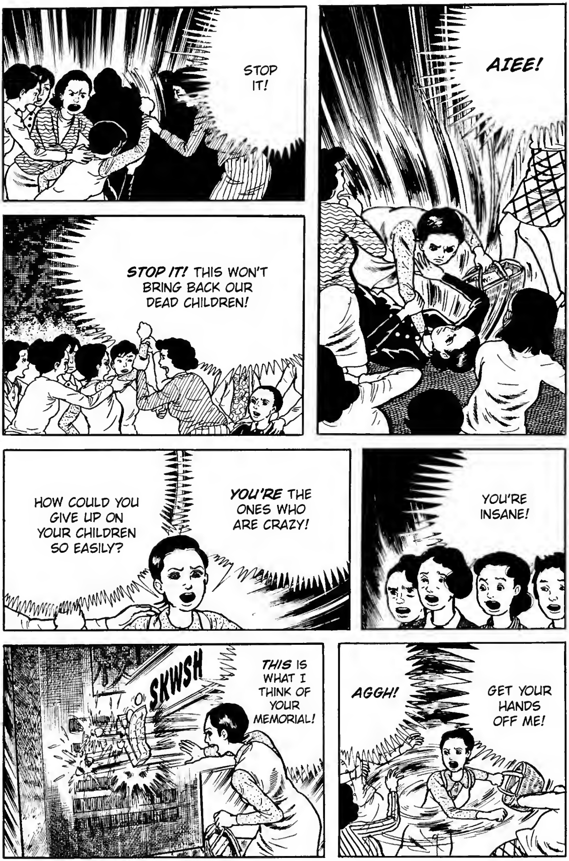

"HERE LIE THE 862 SOULS OF YAMATO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL..."
IS SHO'S NAME ON THIS LIST?
高松 翔
*SHO!*
IT'S A *LIE!* SHO'S NOT DEAD!
WHO THE HELL BUILT THIS, ANYWAY!?
学校

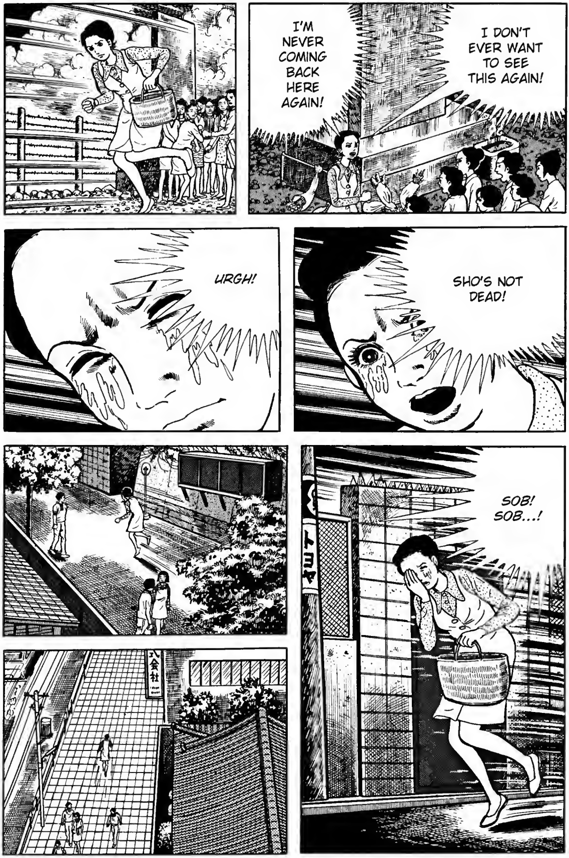
*NAME=SHO TAKAMATSU

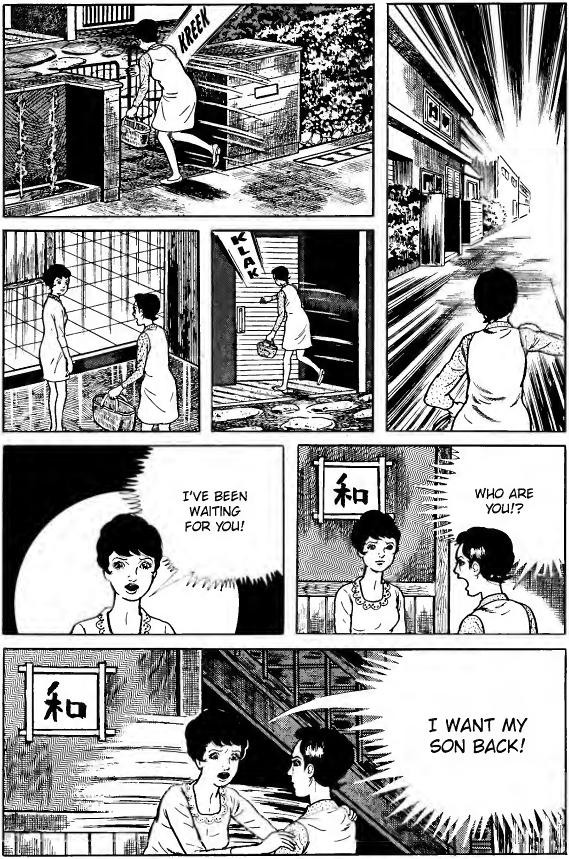

THUD
THUD
WHO BUILT THIS DAMN THING!?
WSSH
小学校
WHAT ARE THESE FLOWERS AND INCENSE!?
MY GOODNESS--!

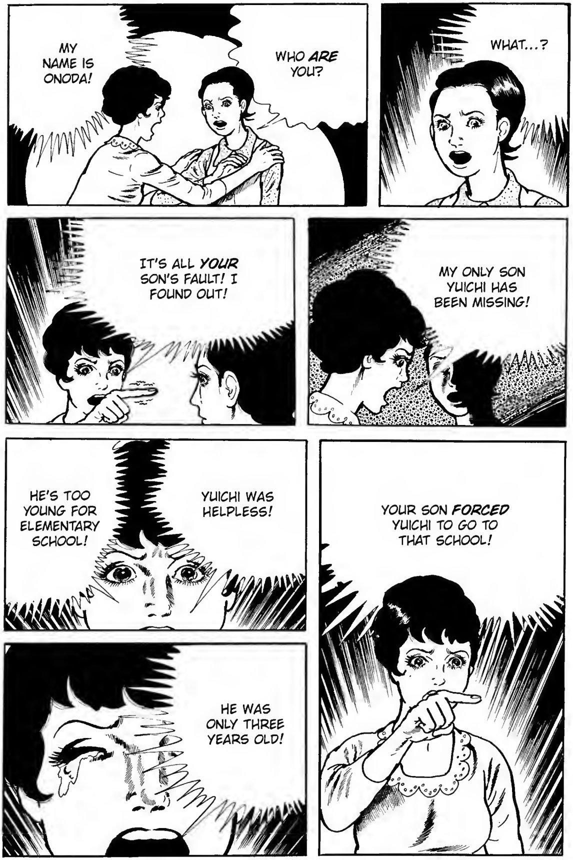

SKRSH
KRUNCH KRUNCH
I *HATE* THIS!
STOP! PLEASE STOP THIS!
WHAT!?
YOU HAVE TO LET GO OF YOUR SON!
MRS. TAKAMATSU... I'M OTOMO'S MOTHER. WE MET BEFORE.
I KNOW IT'S HARD, BUT OUR CHILDREN AREN'T COMING BACK...!
I'VE ACCEPTED THAT MY BOY IS DEAD. WE ALL HAVE. THAT'S WHAT THIS MEMORIAL IS FOR.

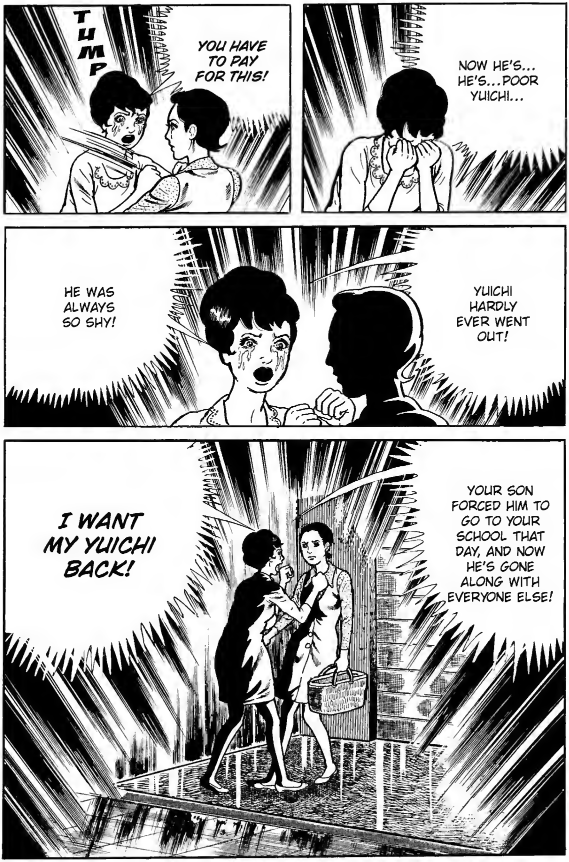

HOW CAN YOU *SAY* THAT!?
WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
EVERYONE HERE HAS LOST SOMEONE. IT'S NOT JUST YOUR SON...IT'S EVERYBODY...
NOTHING CAN CHANGE THE FACT THAT OUR CHILDREN ARE DEAD.
*HOW DARE YOU...!*
SHO'S ALIVE! *SAY IT!*
AGGH!
WAK

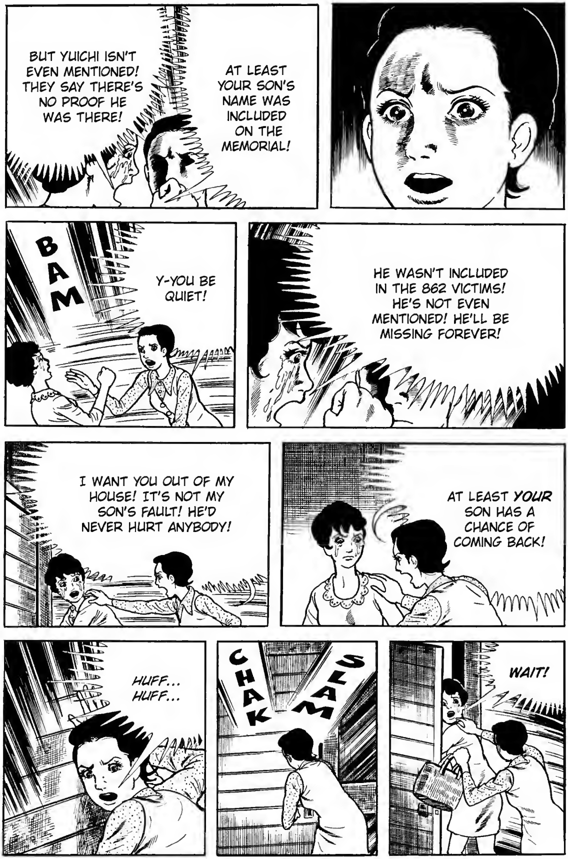

AIEE!
STOP IT!
STOP IT! THIS WON'T BRING BACK OUR DEAD CHILDREN!
YOU'RE INSANE!
YOU'RE THE ONES WHO ARE CRAZY!
HOW COULD YOU GIVE UP ON YOUR CHILDREN SO EASILY?
GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME!
AGGH!
THIS IS WHAT I THINK OF YOUR MEMORIAL!
SKWSH

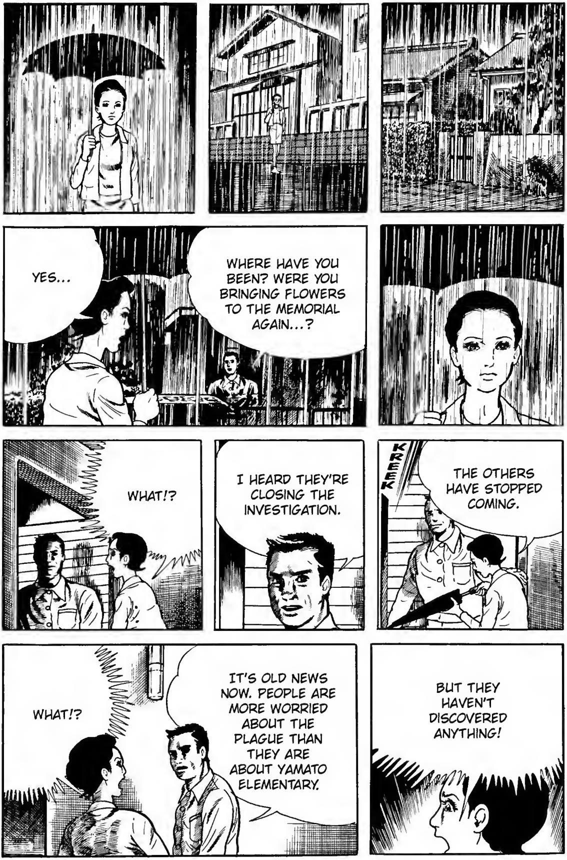

I'M NEVER COMING BACK HERE AGAIN!
I DON'T EVER WANT TO SEE THIS AGAIN!
URGH!
SHO'S NOT DEAD!
SOB! SOB...!
トヨヤ

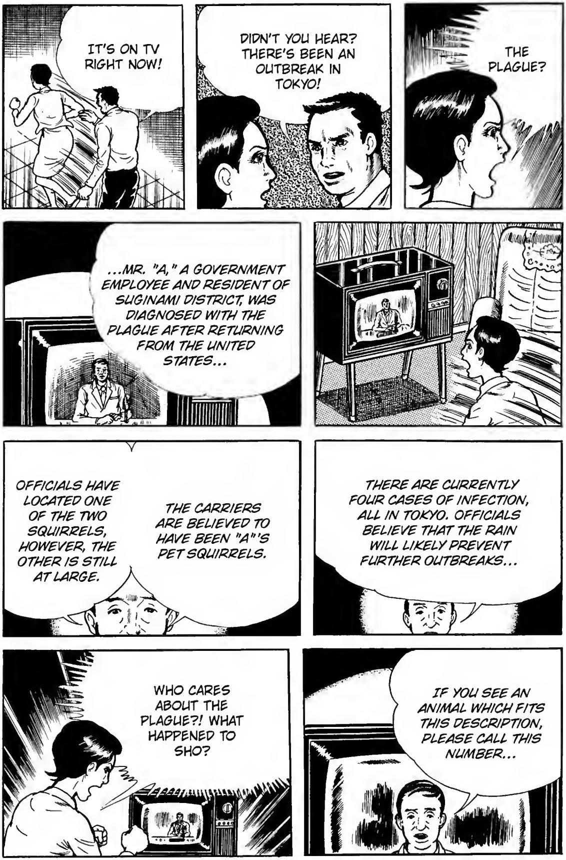

KREEK
KLAK
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU!
和
WHO ARE YOU!?
和
I WANT MY SON BACK!

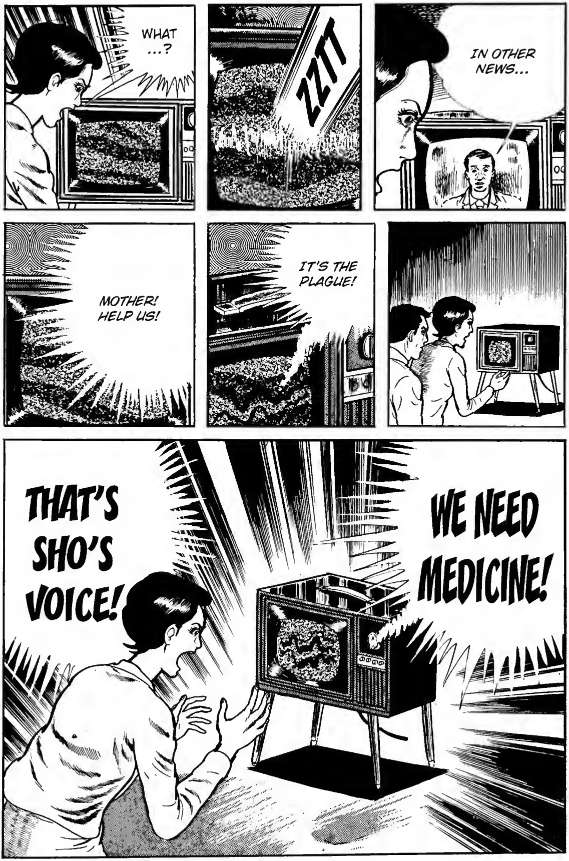

MY NAME IS ONODA!
WHO *ARE* YOU?
WHAT...?
IT'S ALL ***YOUR*** SON'S FAULT! I FOUND OUT!
MY ONLY SON YUICHI HAS BEEN MISSING!
HE'S TOO YOUNG FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!
YUICHI WAS HELPLESS!
HE WAS ONLY THREE YEARS OLD!
YOUR SON ***FORCED*** YUICHI TO GO TO THAT SCHOOL!

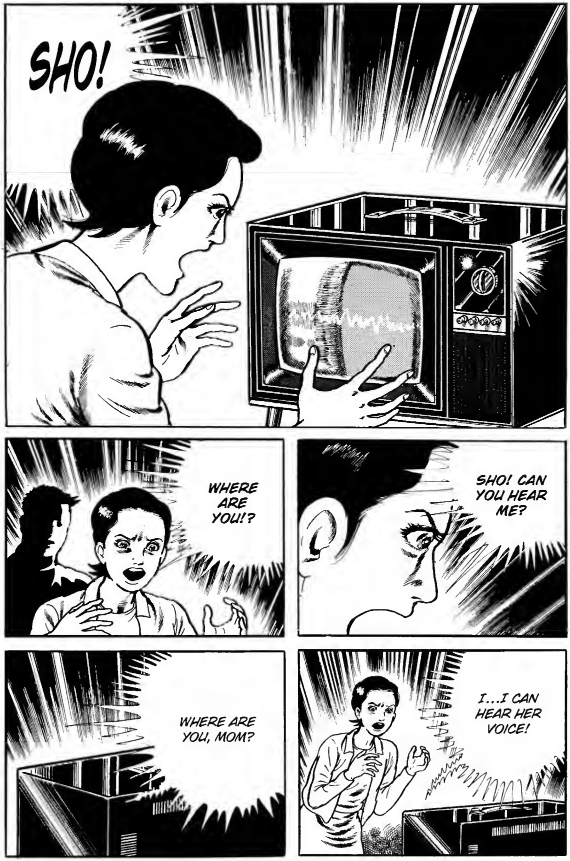

NOW HE'S... HE'S...POOR YUICHI...
TUMP
YOU HAVE TO PAY FOR THIS!
YUICHI HARDLY EVER WENT OUT!
HE WAS ALWAYS SO SHY!
YOUR SON FORCED HIM TO GO TO YOUR SCHOOL THAT DAY, AND NOW HE'S GONE ALONG WITH EVERYONE ELSE!
I WANT MY YUICHI BACK!

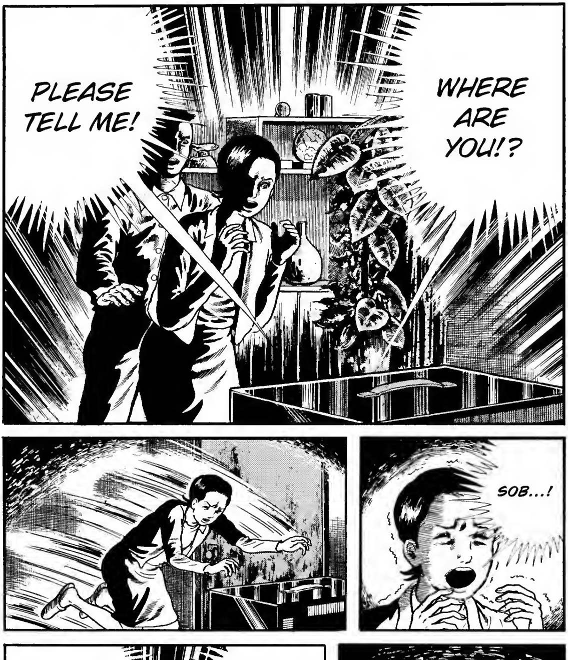

AT LEAST YOUR SON'S NAME WAS INCLUDED ON THE MEMORIAL!
BUT YUICHI ISN'T EVEN MENTIONED! THEY SAY THERE'S NO PROOF HE WAS THERE!
HE WASN'T INCLUDED IN THE 862 VICTIMS! HE'S NOT EVEN MENTIONED! HE'LL BE MISSING FOREVER!
Y-YOU BE QUIET!
BAM
AT LEAST *YOUR* SON HAS A CHANCE OF COMING BACK!
I WANT YOU OUT OF MY HOUSE! IT'S NOT MY SON'S FAULT! HE'D NEVER HURT ANYBODY!
*WAIT!*
SLAM
CHAK
*HUFF... HUFF...*

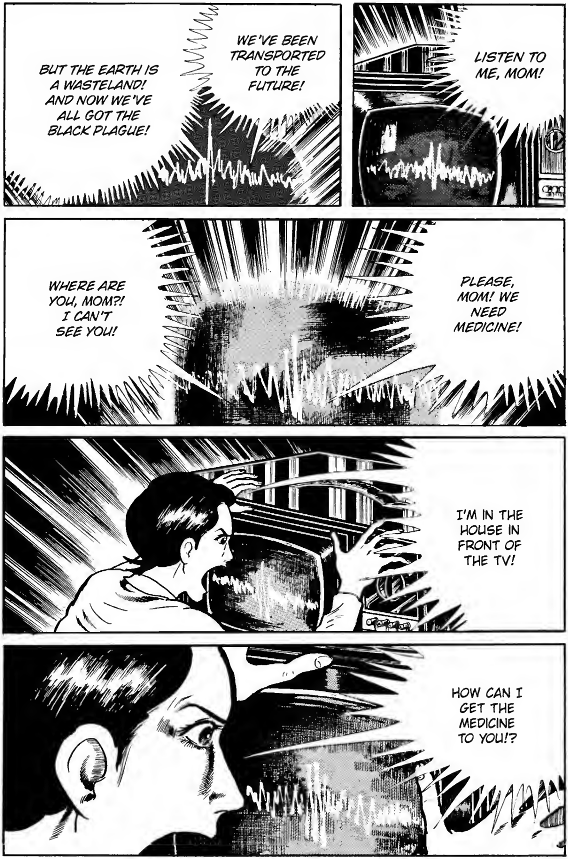

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? WERE YOU BRINGING FLOWERS TO THE MEMORIAL AGAIN...?
YES...
KREEK
THE OTHERS HAVE STOPPED COMING.
I HEARD THEY'RE CLOSING THE INVESTIGATION.
WHAT!?
BUT THEY HAVEN'T DISCOVERED ANYTHING!
IT'S OLD NEWS NOW. PEOPLE ARE MORE WORRIED ABOUT THE PLAGUE THAN THEY ARE ABOUT YAMATO ELEMENTARY.
WHAT!?

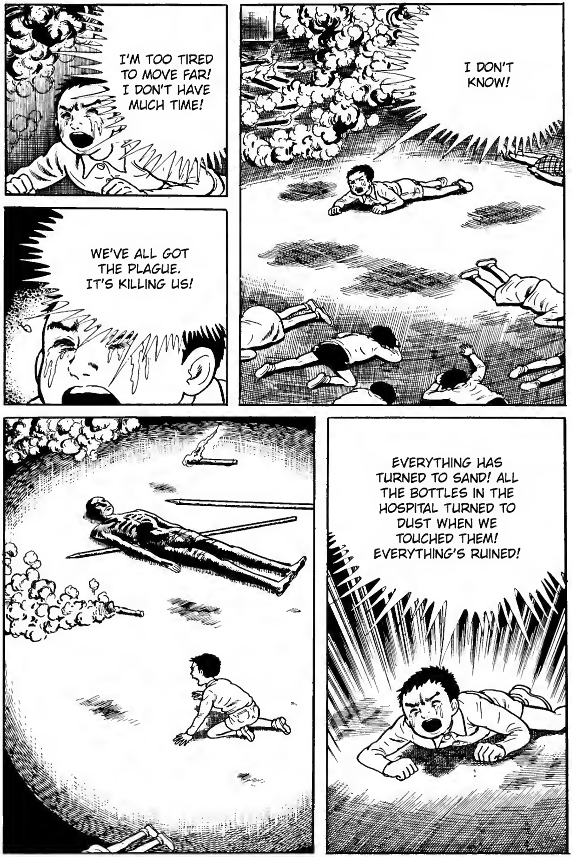

IT'S ON TV RIGHT NOW!
DIDN'T YOU HEAR? THERE'S BEEN AN OUTBREAK IN TOKYO!
THE PLAGUE?
...MR. "A," A GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE AND RESIDENT OF SUGINAMI DISTRICT, WAS DIAGNOSED WITH THE PLAGUE AFTER RETURNING FROM THE UNITED STATES...
THE CARRIERS ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN "A"'S PET SQUIRRELS.
OFFICIALS HAVE LOCATED ONE OF THE TWO SQUIRRELS, HOWEVER, THE OTHER IS STILL AT LARGE.
THERE ARE CURRENTLY FOUR CASES OF INFECTION, ALL IN TOKYO. OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT THE RAIN WILL LIKELY PREVENT FURTHER OUTBREAKS...
WHO CARES ABOUT THE PLAGUE?! WHAT HAPPENED TO SHO?
IF YOU SEE AN ANIMAL WHICH FITS THIS DESCRIPTION, PLEASE CALL THIS NUMBER...

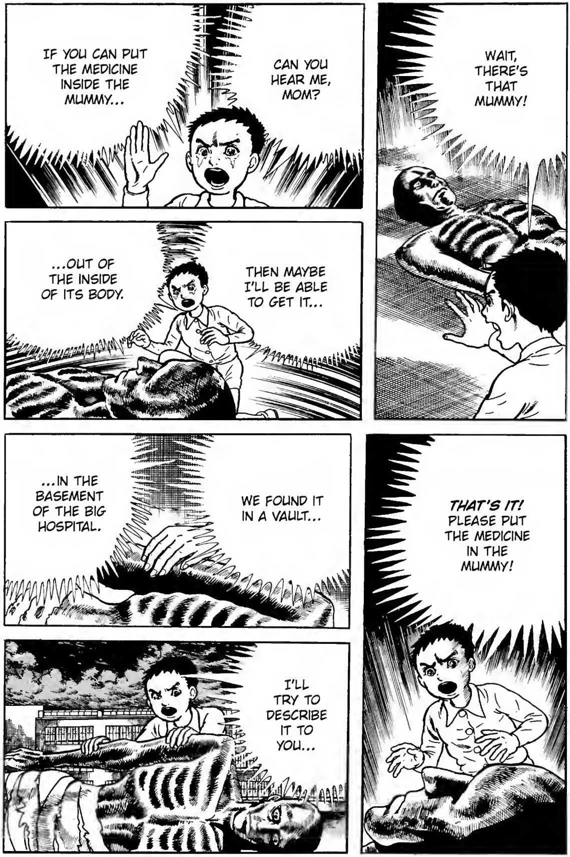

WHAT ...?
ZZTT
IN OTHER NEWS...
MOTHER! HELP US!
IT'S THE PLAGUE!
THAT'S SHO'S VOICE!
WE NEED MEDICINE!

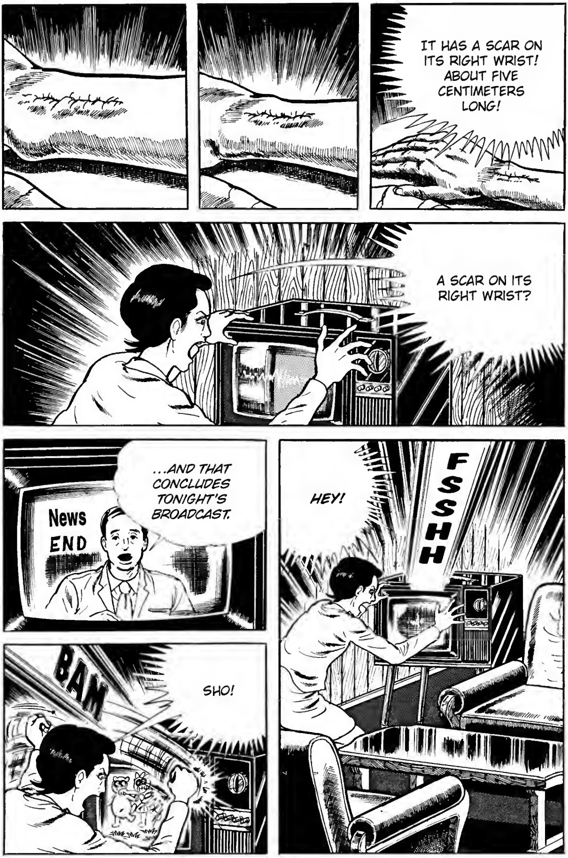

SHO!
SHO! CAN YOU HEAR ME?
WHERE ARE YOU!?
I...I CAN HEAR HER VOICE!
WHERE ARE YOU, MOM?

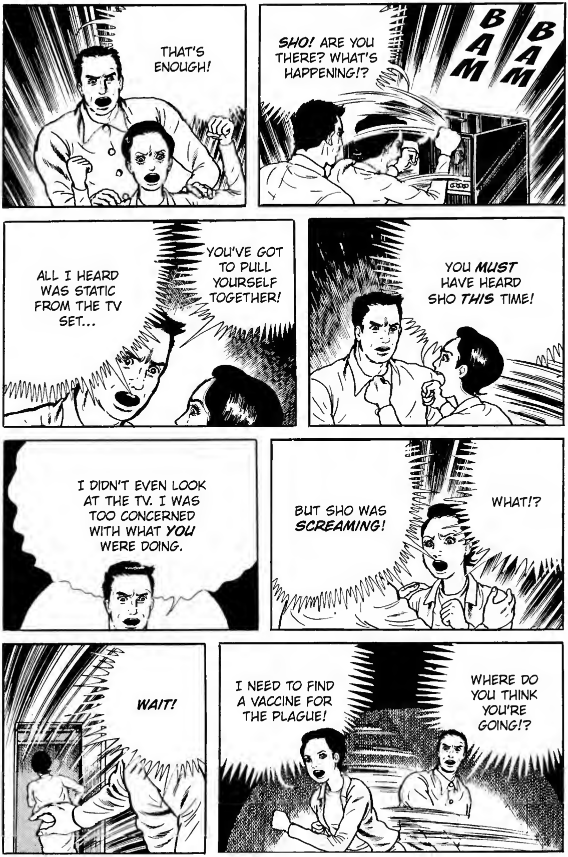

WHERE ARE YOU!?
PLEASE TELL ME!
SOB...!
MOTHER!
PLEASE HELP US!

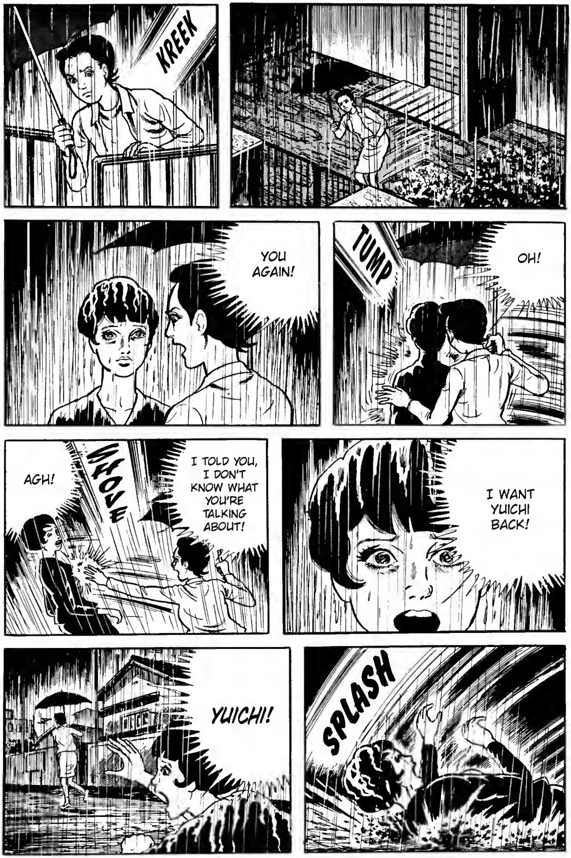

LISTEN TO ME, MOM!
WE'VE BEEN TRANSPORTED TO THE FUTURE!
BUT THE EARTH IS A WASTELAND! AND NOW WE'VE ALL GOT THE BLACK PLAGUE!
PLEASE, MOM! WE NEED MEDICINE!
WHERE ARE YOU, MOM?! I CAN'T SEE YOU!
I'M IN THE HOUSE IN FRONT OF THE TV!
HOW CAN I GET THE MEDICINE TO YOU!?

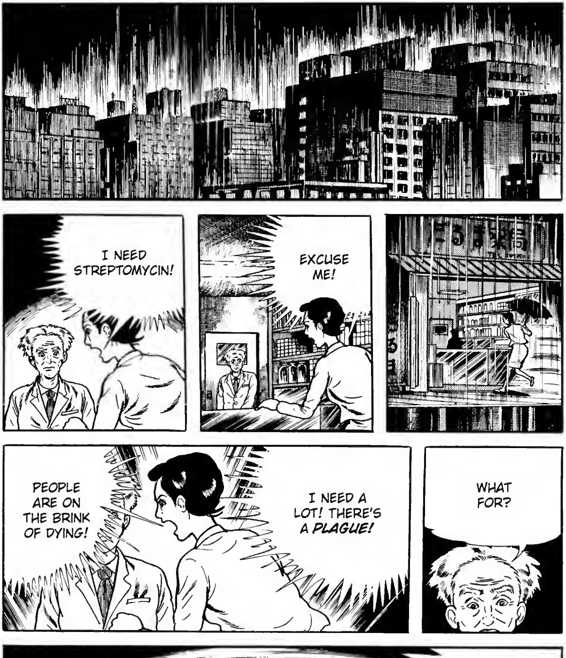

I'M TOO TIRED TO MOVE FAR! I DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME!
I DON'T KNOW!
WE'VE ALL GOT THE PLAGUE. IT'S KILLING US!
EVERYTHING HAS TURNED TO SAND! ALL THE BOTTLES IN THE HOSPITAL TURNED TO DUST WHEN WE TOUCHED THEM! EVERYTHING'S RUINED!

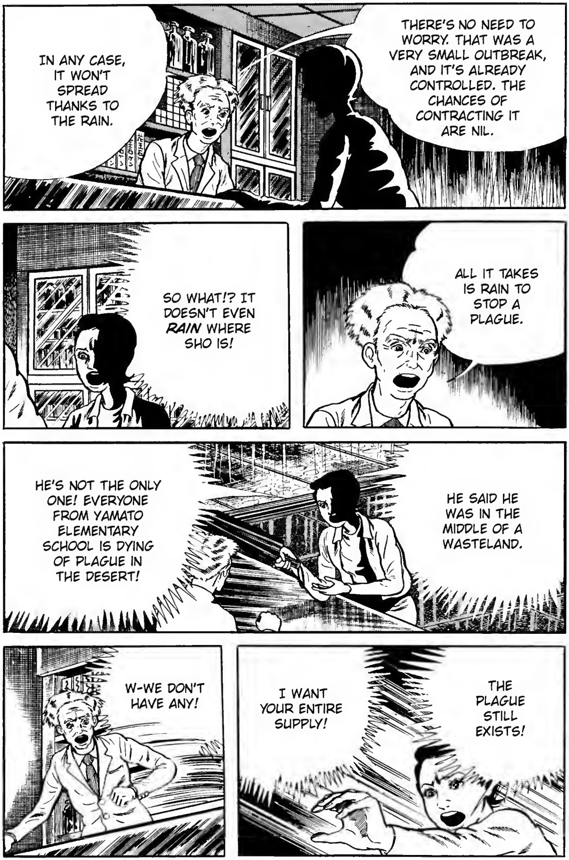

WAIT, THERE'S THAT MUMMY!
CAN YOU HEAR ME, MOM?
IF YOU CAN PUT THE MEDICINE INSIDE THE MUMMY...
THEN MAYBE I'LL BE ABLE TO GET IT...
...OUT OF THE INSIDE OF ITS BODY.
*THAT'S IT!* PLEASE PUT THE MEDICINE IN THE MUMMY!
WE FOUND IT IN A VAULT...
...IN THE BASEMENT OF THE BIG HOSPITAL.
I'LL TRY TO DESCRIBE IT TO YOU...

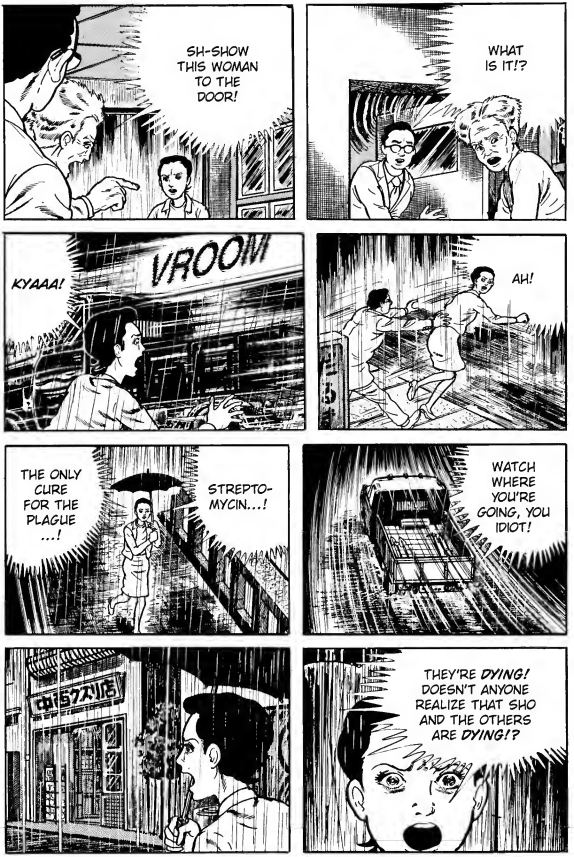

IT HAS A SCAR ON ITS RIGHT WRIST! ABOUT FIVE CENTIMETERS LONG!
A SCAR ON ITS RIGHT WRIST?
HEY!
FSSHH
...AND THAT CONCLUDES TONIGHT'S BROADCAST.
News END
BAM
SHO!


THAT'S ENOUGH!
*SHO!* ARE YOU THERE? WHAT'S HAPPENING!?
BAM BAM
ALL I HEARD WAS STATIC FROM THE TV SET...
YOU'VE GOT TO PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER!
YOU *MUST* HAVE HEARD SHO *THIS* TIME!
I DIDN'T EVEN LOOK AT THE TV. I WAS TOO CONCERNED WITH WHAT *YOU* WERE DOING.
BUT SHO WAS *SCREAMING!*
WHAT!?
*WAIT!*
I NEED TO FIND A VACCINE FOR THE PLAGUE!
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING!?

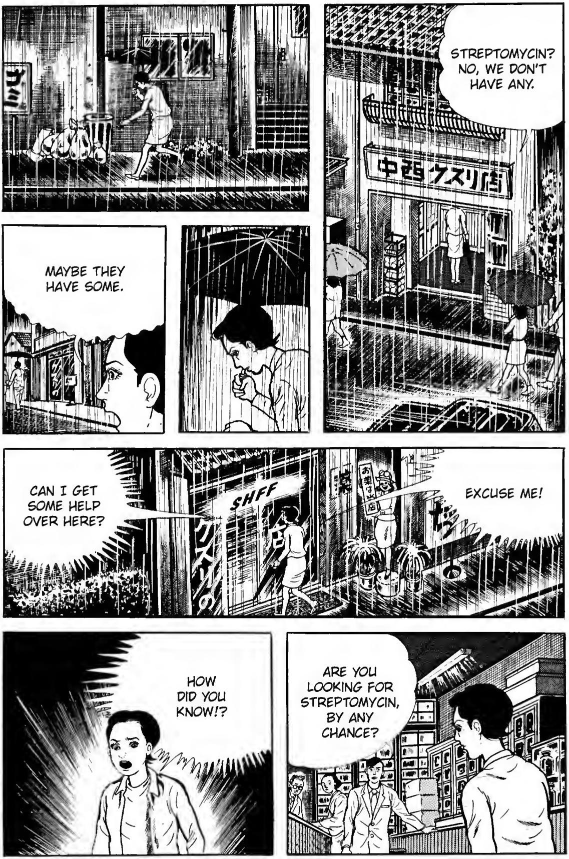

KREEK
YOU AGAIN!
TUMP
OH!
AGH!
SHOVE
I TOLD YOU, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!
I WANT YUICHI BACK!
YUICHI!
SPLASH

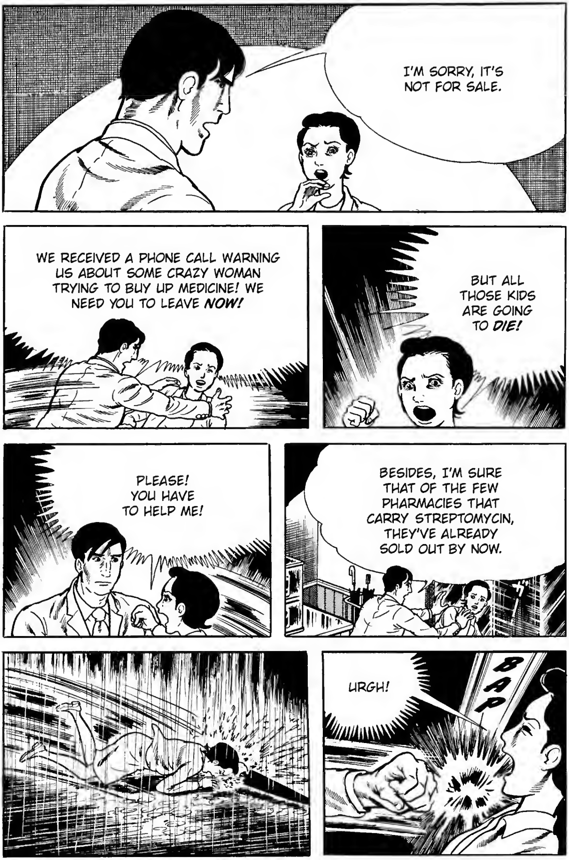

EXCUSE ME!
I NEED STREPTOMYCIN!
WHAT FOR?
I NEED A LOT! THERE'S A *PLAGUE!*
PEOPLE ARE ON THE BRINK OF DYING!
OH, *THAT!*

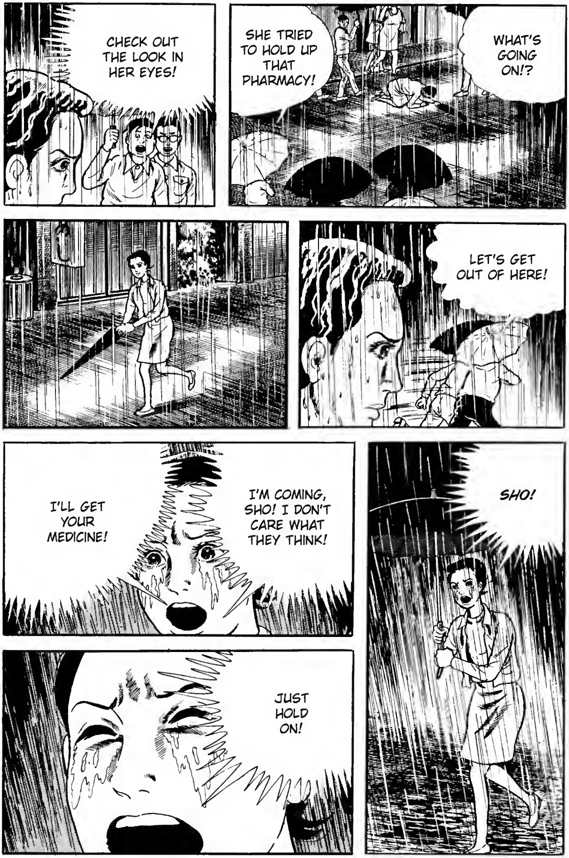

THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY. THAT WAS A VERY SMALL OUTBREAK, AND IT'S ALREADY CONTROLLED. THE CHANCES OF CONTRACTING IT ARE NIL.
IN ANY CASE, IT WON'T SPREAD THANKS TO THE RAIN.
ALL IT TAKES IS RAIN TO STOP A PLAGUE.
SO WHAT!? IT DOESN'T EVEN *RAIN* WHERE SHO IS!
HE SAID HE WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF A WASTELAND.
HE'S NOT THE ONLY ONE! EVERYONE FROM YAMATO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IS DYING OF PLAGUE IN THE DESERT!
THE PLAGUE STILL EXISTS!
I WANT YOUR ENTIRE SUPPLY!
W-WE DON'T HAVE ANY!

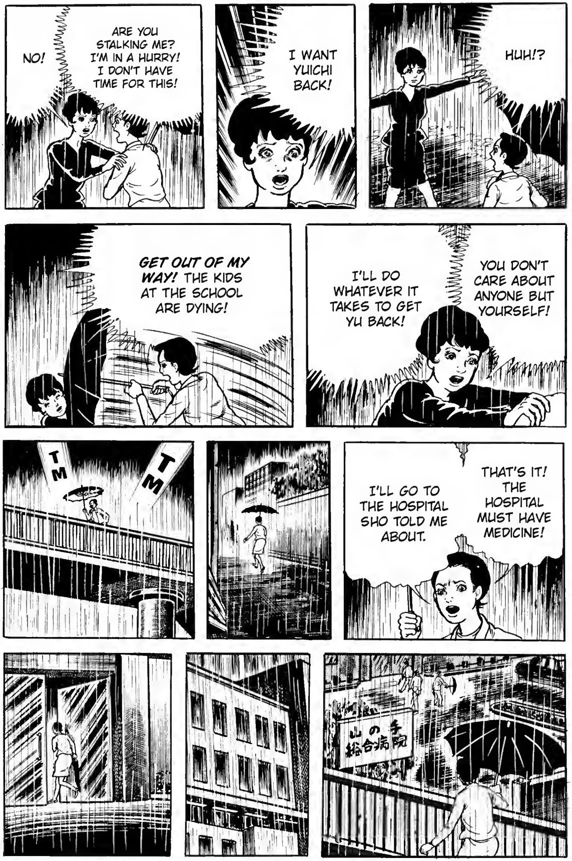

SH-SHOW THIS WOMAN TO THE DOOR!
WHAT IS IT!?
KYAAA!
VROOM
AH!
THE ONLY CURE FOR THE PLAGUE ...!
STREPTO-MYCIN...!
WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING, YOU IDIOT!
中西クスリ店
THEY'RE *DYING!* DOESN'T ANYONE REALIZE THAT SHO AND THE OTHERS ARE *DYING!?*

*SIGN=NAKANISHI PHARMACY

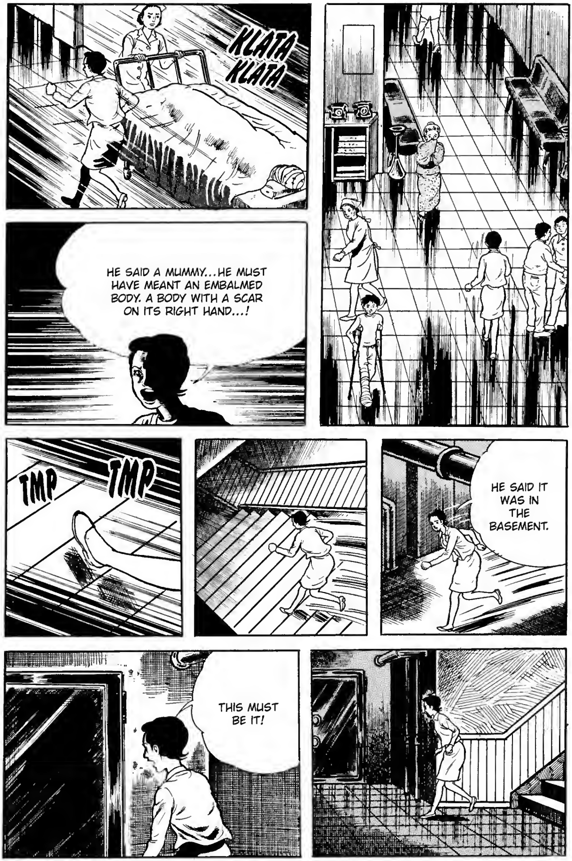

中西クスリ店
STREPTOMYCIN? NO, WE DON'T HAVE ANY.
ゴミ
MAYBE THEY HAVE SOME.
EXCUSE ME!
SHFF
CAN I GET SOME HELP OVER HERE?
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR STREPTOMYCIN, BY ANY CHANCE?
HOW DID YOU KNOW!?

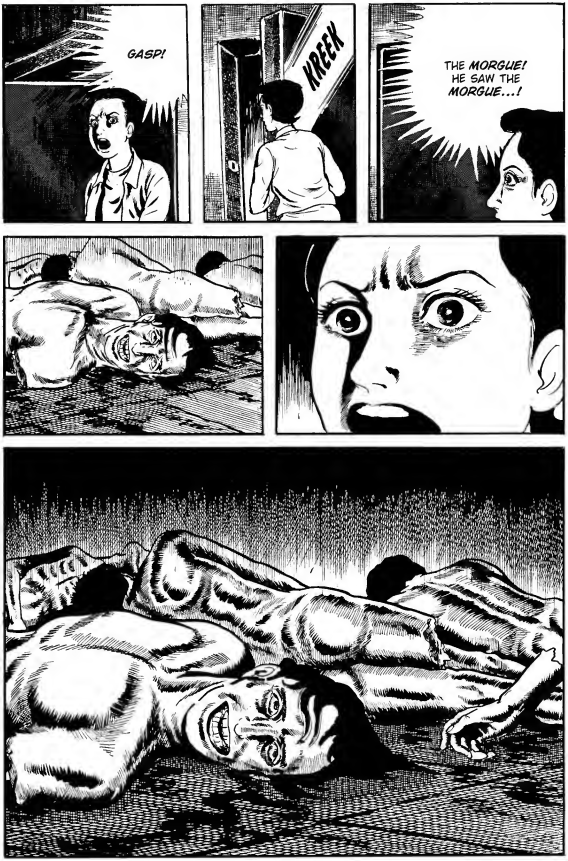

I'M SORRY, IT'S NOT FOR SALE.
WE RECEIVED A PHONE CALL WARNING US ABOUT SOME CRAZY WOMAN TRYING TO BUY UP MEDICINE! WE NEED YOU TO LEAVE *NOW!*
BUT ALL THOSE KIDS ARE GOING TO *DIE!*
PLEASE! YOU HAVE TO HELP ME!
BESIDES, I'M SURE THAT OF THE FEW PHARMACIES THAT CARRY STREPTOMYCIN, THEY'VE ALREADY SOLD OUT BY NOW.
URGH!
BAP

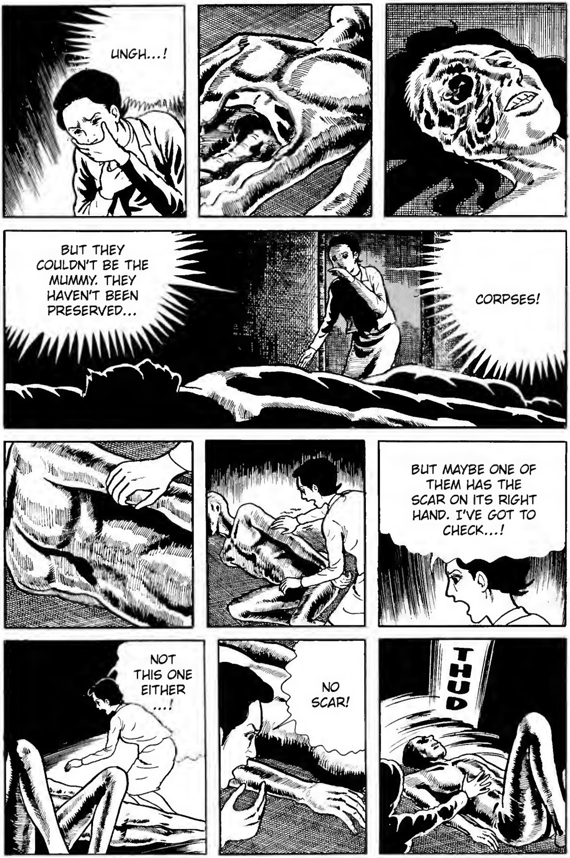

CHECK OUT THE LOOK IN HER EYES!
SHE TRIED TO HOLD UP THAT PHARMACY!
WHAT'S GOING ON!?
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
I'LL GET YOUR MEDICINE!
I'M COMING, SHO! I DON'T CARE WHAT THEY THINK!
JUST HOLD ON!
SHO!

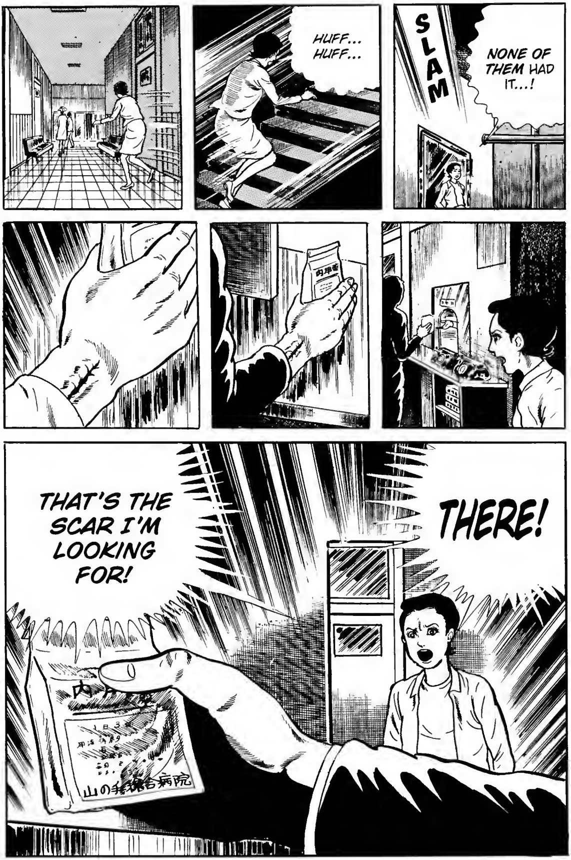

ARE YOU STALKING ME? I'M IN A HURRY! I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS!
NO!
I WANT YUICHI BACK!
HUH!?
GET OUT OF MY WAY! THE KIDS AT THE SCHOOL ARE DYING!
YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT ANYONE BUT YOURSELF!
I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO GET YU BACK!
TM
TM
THAT'S IT! THE HOSPITAL MUST HAVE MEDICINE!
I'LL GO TO THE HOSPITAL SHO TOLD ME ABOUT.
山の手
総合病院

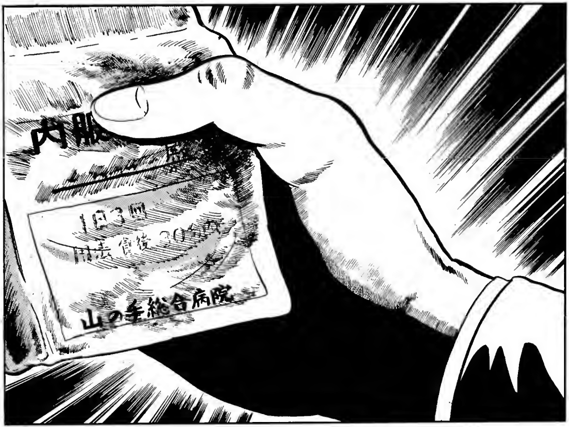
*SIGN=YAMANOTE GENERAL HOSPITAL


KLATA KLATA
HE SAID A MUMMY...HE MUST HAVE MEANT AN EMBALMED BODY. A BODY WITH A SCAR ON ITS RIGHT HAND...!
TMP TMP
HE SAID IT WAS IN THE BASEMENT.
THIS MUST BE IT!

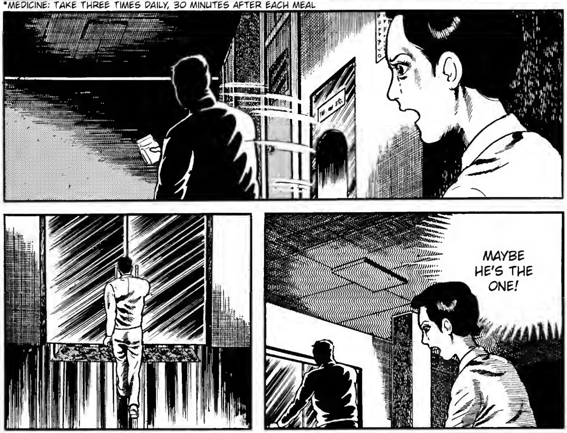

GASP!
KREEK
THE MORGUE! HE SAW THE MORGUE...!

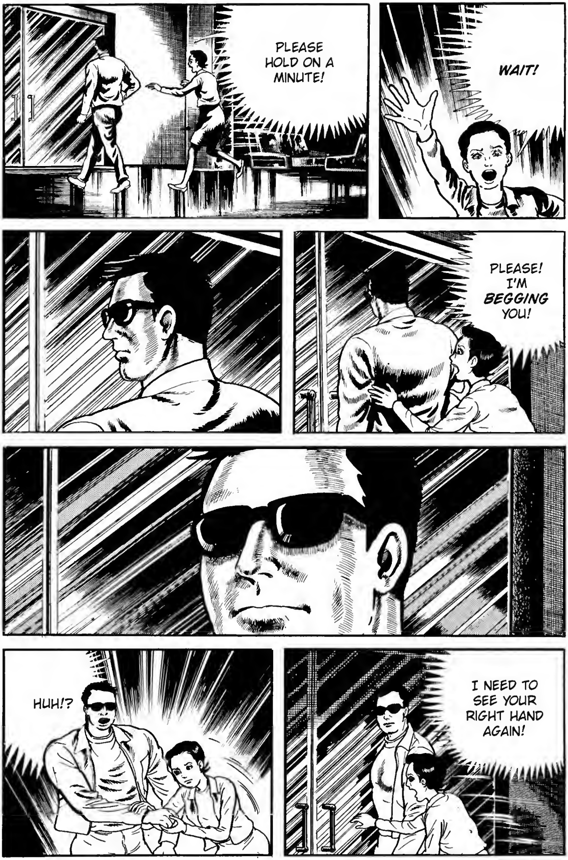

UNGH...!
BUT THEY COULDN'T BE THE MUMMY. THEY HAVEN'T BEEN PRESERVED...
CORPSES!
BUT MAYBE ONE OF THEM HAS THE SCAR ON ITS RIGHT HAND. I'VE GOT TO CHECK...!
NOT THIS ONE EITHER ...!
NO SCAR!
THUD

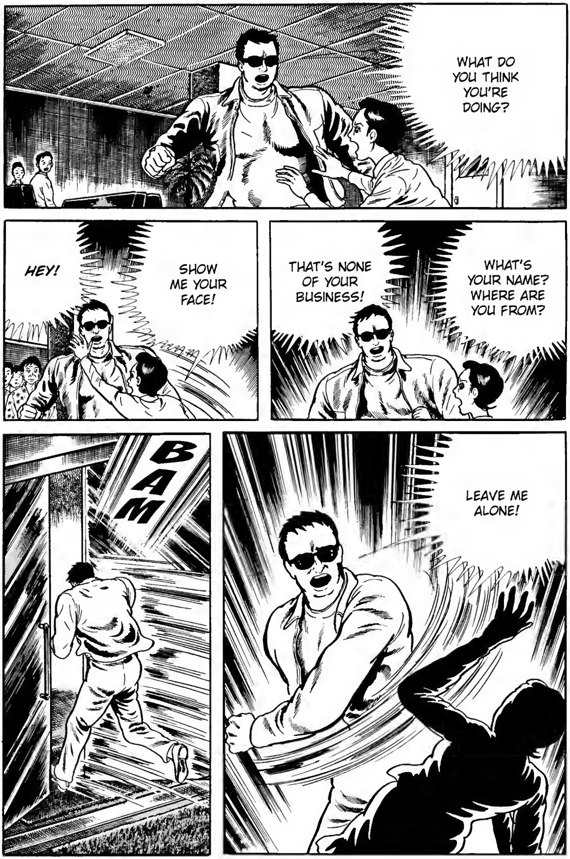

SLAM
NONE OF THEM HAD IT...!
HUFF... HUFF...
内用薬
THERE!
THAT'S THE SCAR I'M LOOKING FOR!
山の手総合病院

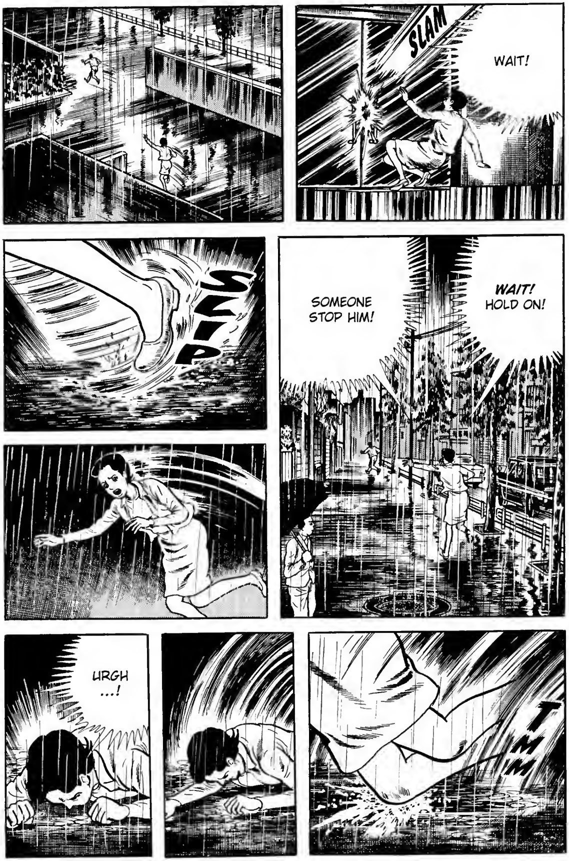

内服
1日3回
用法 食後 30分
山の手総合病院

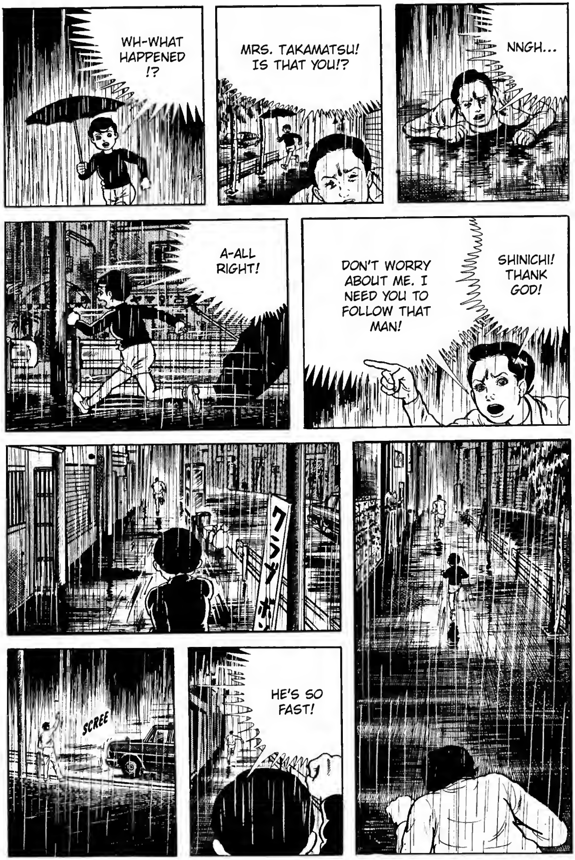
*MEDICINE: TAKE THREE TIMES DAILY, 30 MINUTES AFTER EACH MEAL

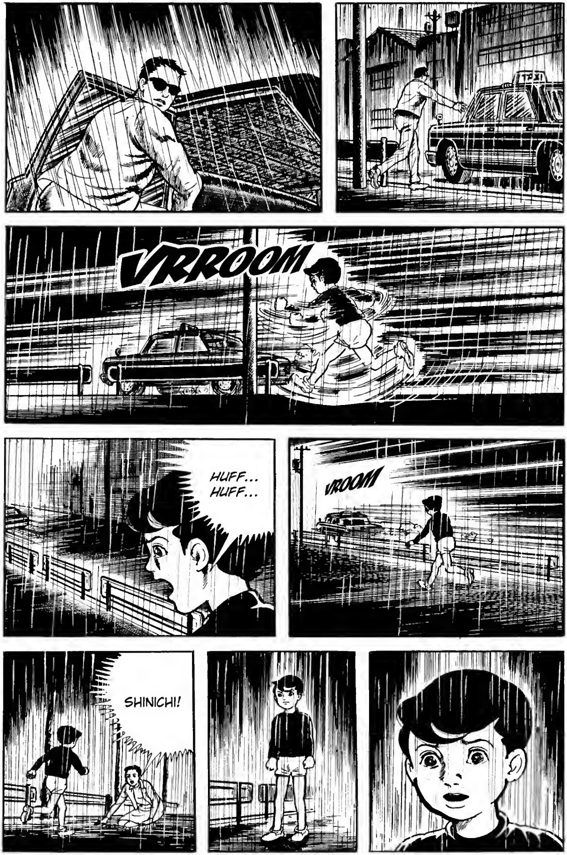

MAYBE HE'S THE ONE!

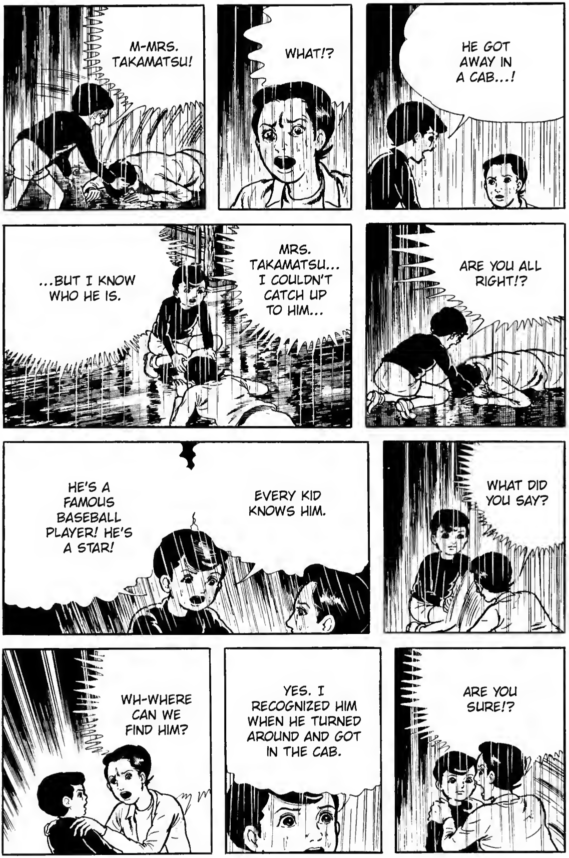

PLEASE HOLD ON A MINUTE!
*WAIT!*
PLEASE! I'M *BEGGING* YOU!
HUH!?
I NEED TO SEE YOUR RIGHT HAND AGAIN!

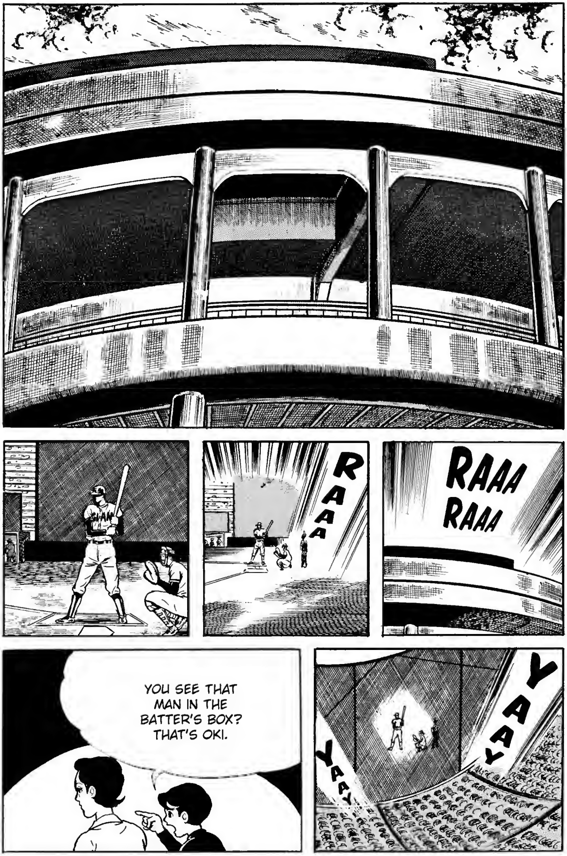

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
WHAT'S YOUR NAME? WHERE ARE YOU FROM?
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
SHOW ME YOUR FACE!
HEY!
LEAVE ME ALONE!
BAM

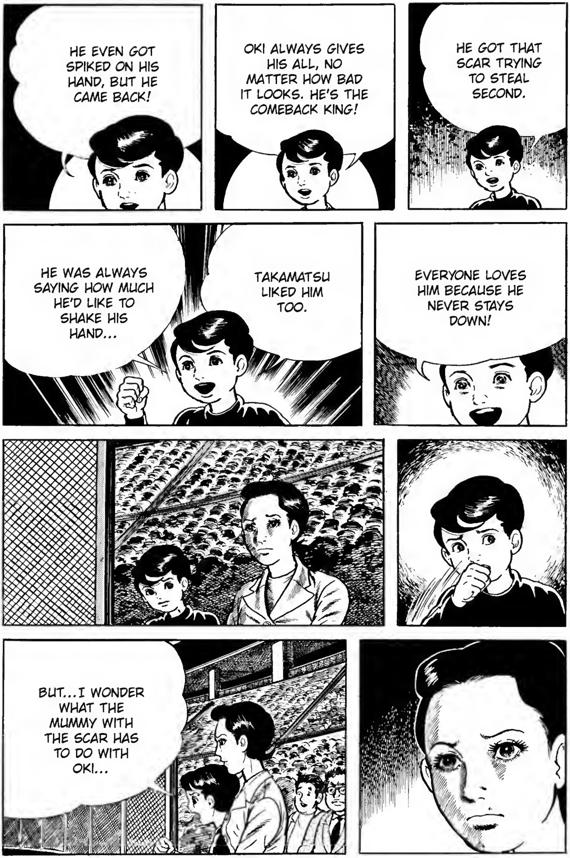

SLAM
WAIT!
WAIT! HOLD ON!
SOMEONE STOP HIM!
SLIP
TMM
URGH ...!

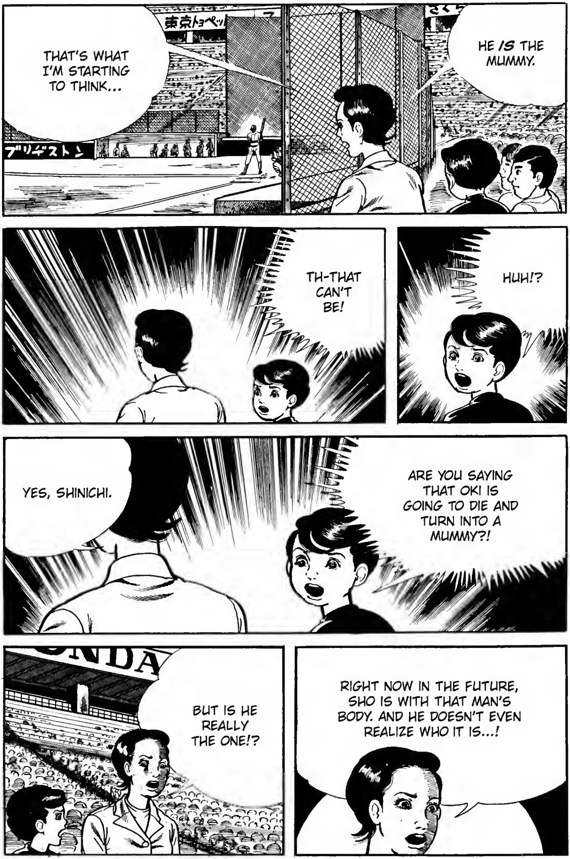

NNGH...
MRS. TAKAMATSU! IS THAT YOU!?
WH-WHAT HAPPENED !?
SHINICHI! THANK GOD!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME. I NEED YOU TO FOLLOW THAT MAN!
A-ALL RIGHT!
クラブボ
HE'S SO FAST!
SCREE

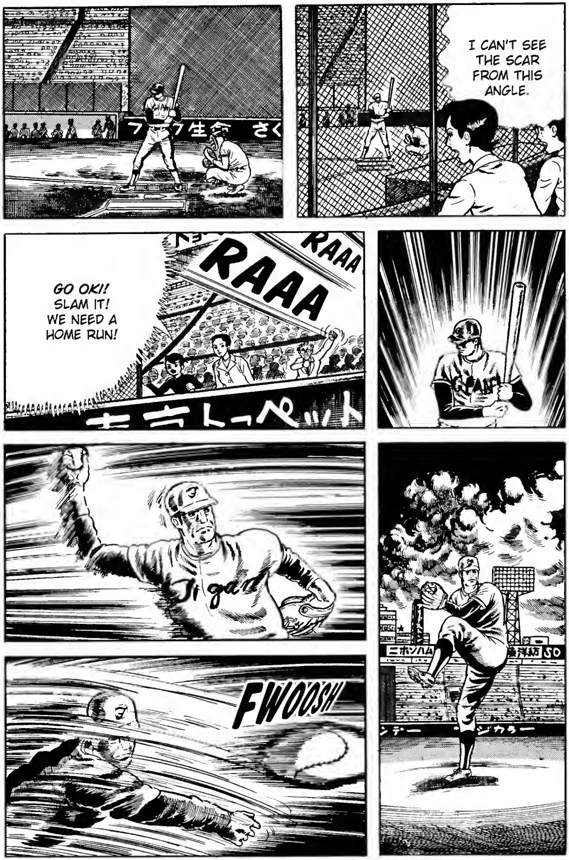

VRROOM
HUFF... HUFF...
VROOM
SHINICHI!

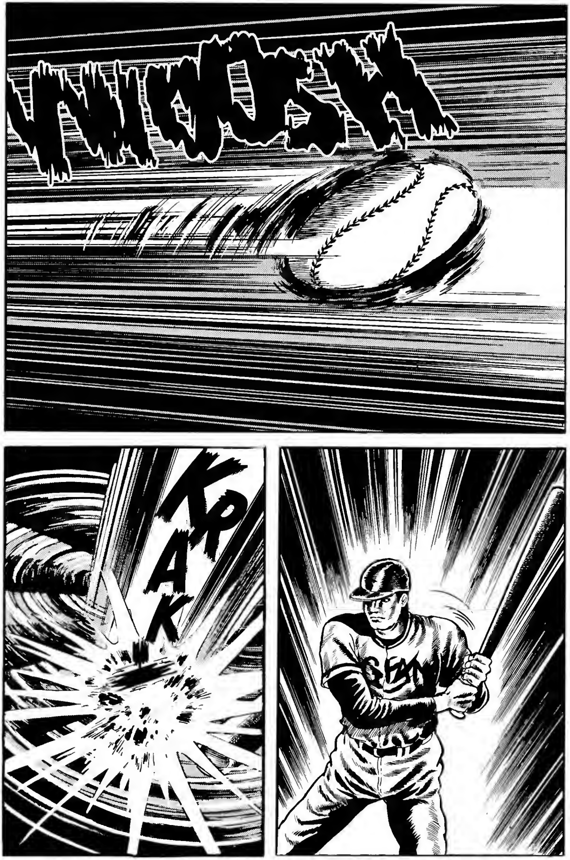

HE GOT AWAY IN A CAB...!
WHAT!?
M-MRS. TAKAMATSU!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?
MRS. TAKAMATSU... I COULDN'T CATCH UP TO HIM...
...BUT I KNOW WHO HE IS.
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
EVERY KID KNOWS HIM.
HE'S A FAMOUS BASEBALL PLAYER! HE'S A STAR!
ARE YOU SURE!?
YES. I RECOGNIZED HIM WHEN HE TURNED AROUND AND GOT IN THE CAB.
WH-WHERE CAN WE FIND HIM?

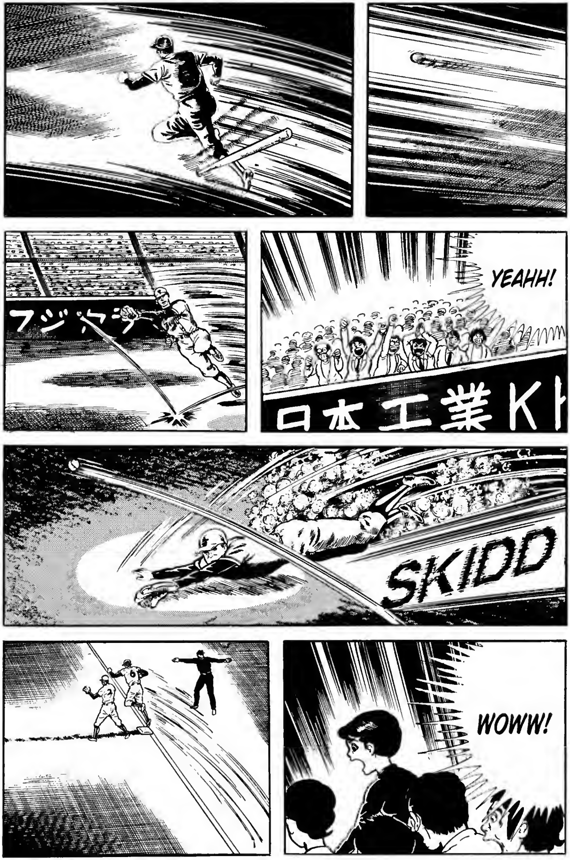

RAAA
RAAA
RAAA
YOU SEE THAT MAN IN THE BATTER'S BOX? THAT'S OKI.
YAAY
YAAY


HE GOT THAT SCAR TRYING TO STEAL SECOND.
OKI ALWAYS GIVES HIS ALL, NO MATTER HOW BAD IT LOOKS. HE'S THE COMEBACK KING!
HE EVEN GOT SPIKED ON HIS HAND, BUT HE CAME BACK!
EVERYONE LOVES HIM BECAUSE HE NEVER STAYS DOWN!
TAKAMATSU LIKED HIM TOO.
HE WAS ALWAYS SAYING HOW MUCH HE'D LIKE TO SHAKE HIS HAND...
BUT...I WONDER WHAT THE MUMMY WITH THE SCAR HAS TO DO WITH OKI...

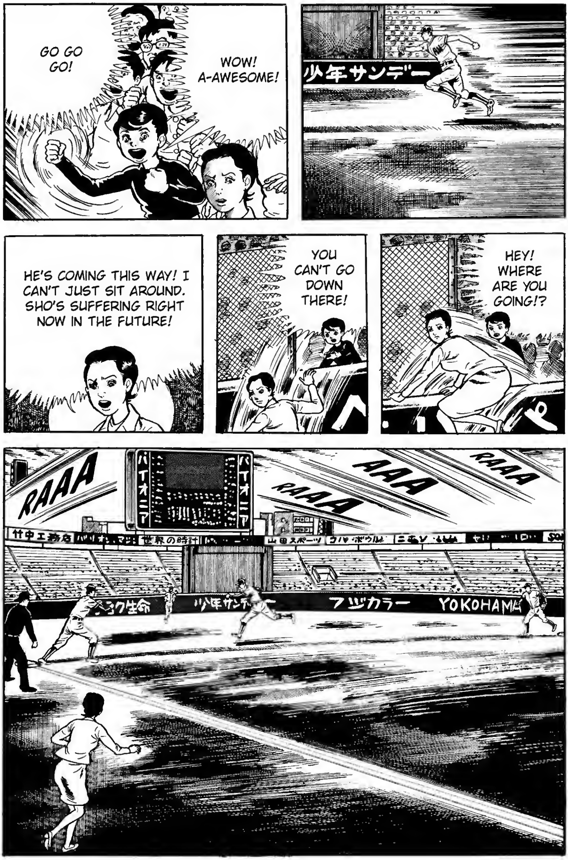

東京トヨペッ
ブリヂストン
THAT'S WHAT I'M STARTING TO THINK...
HE *IS* THE MUMMY.
TH-THAT CAN'T BE!
HUH!?
YES, SHINICHI.
ARE YOU SAYING THAT OKI IS GOING TO DIE AND TURN INTO A MUMMY?!
NDA
BUT IS HE REALLY THE ONE!?
RIGHT NOW IN THE FUTURE, SHO IS WITH THAT MAN'S BODY. AND HE DOESN'T EVEN REALIZE WHO IT IS...!

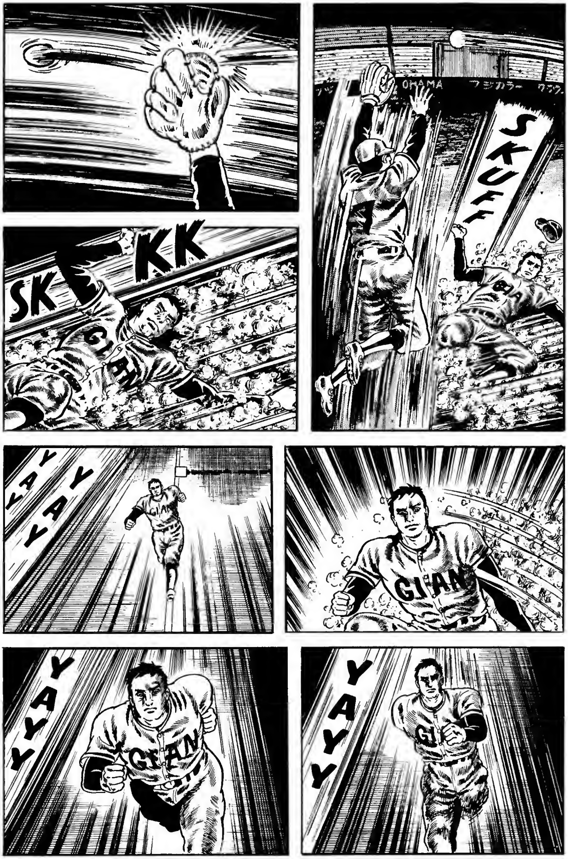

I CAN'T SEE THE SCAR FROM THIS ANGLE.
フ フ生命 さく
RAAA
RAAAA
GO OKI! SLAM IT! WE NEED A HOME RUN!
ニホンハム
洋紡 SO
FWOOSH

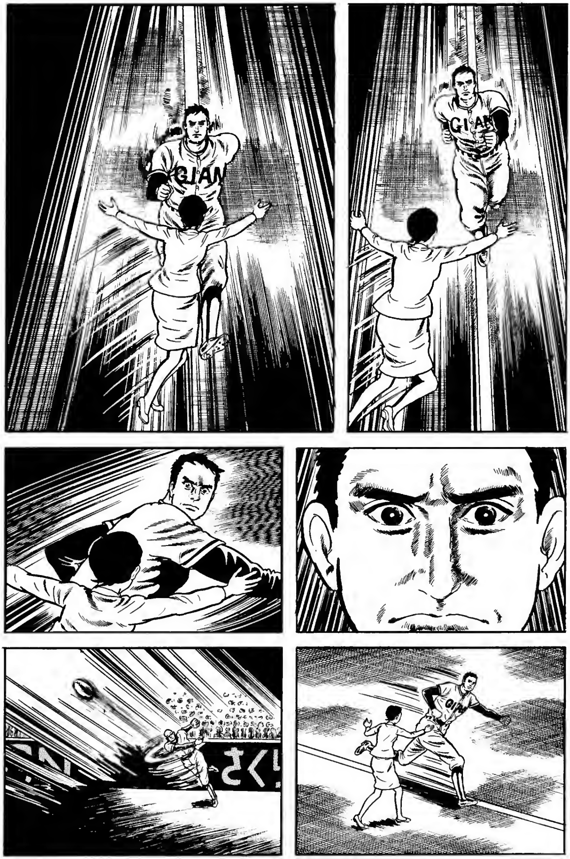

WHOOSH
KRAK

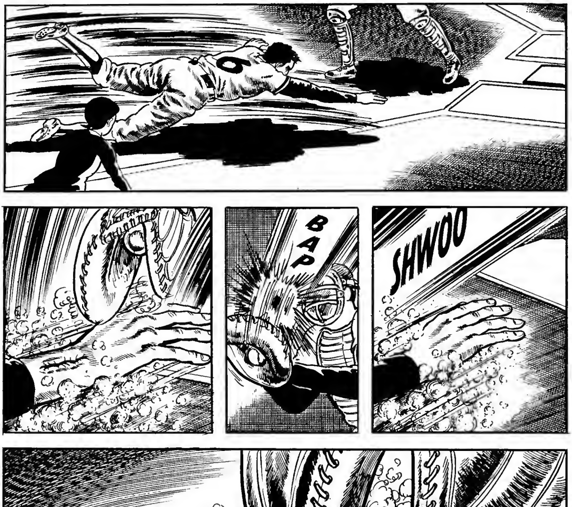


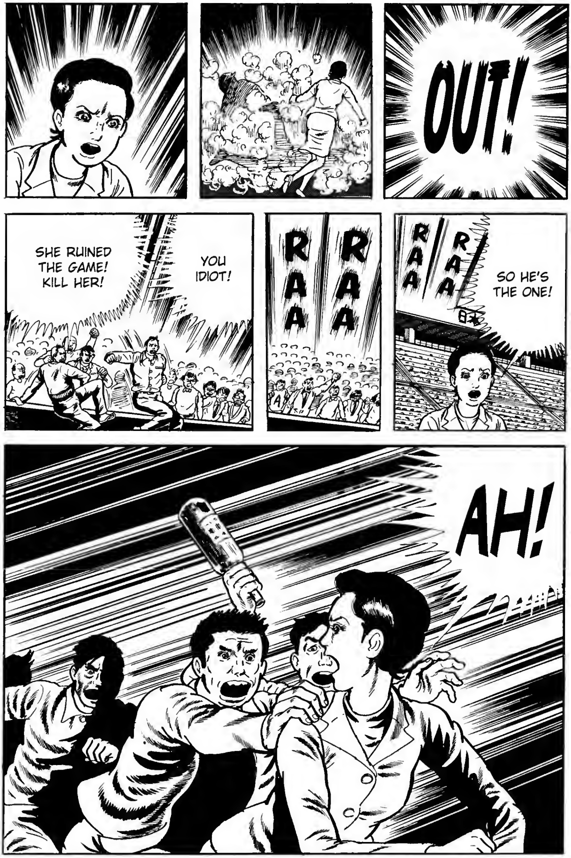
フジ
YEAHH!
日本工業K
SKIDD
WOWW!

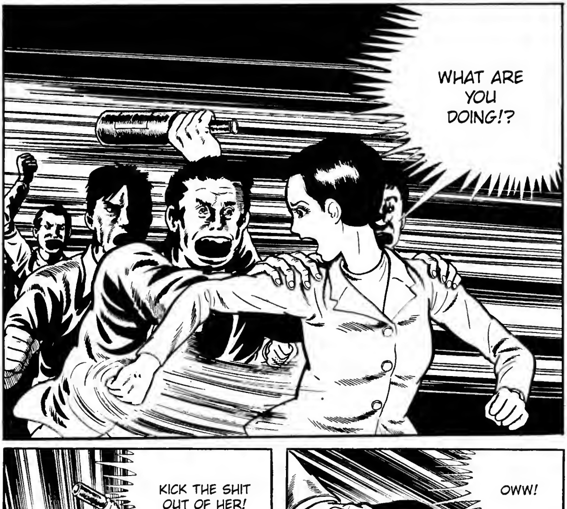

GO GO GO!
WOW! A-AWESOME!
少年サンデー
HE'S COMING THIS WAY! I CAN'T JUST SIT AROUND. SHO'S SUFFERING RIGHT NOW IN THE FUTURE!
YOU CAN'T GO DOWN THERE!
HEY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING!?
RAAA
パイオニア
パイオニア
RAAA
AAA
RAAA
竹中工務店
世界の時計
山田スポーツ
少年サンデー
フジカラー
YOKOHAMA

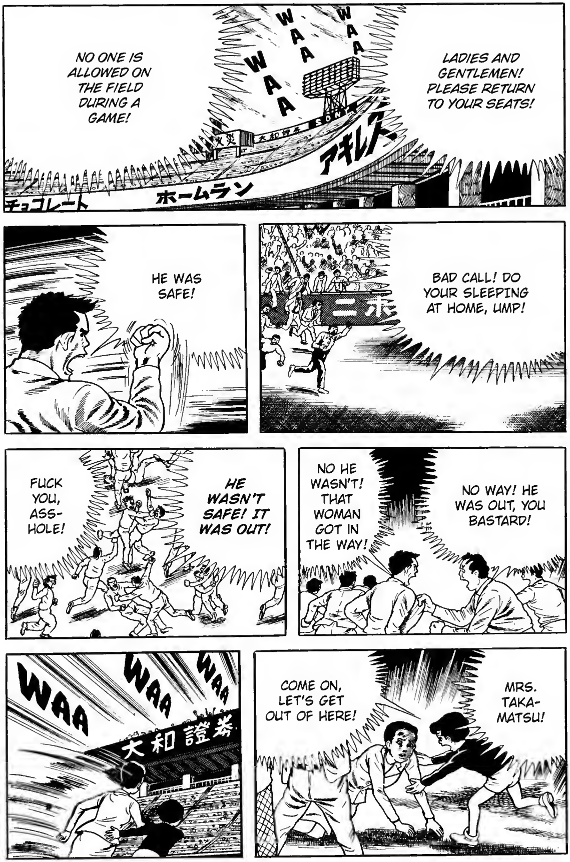

OHAMA
フジカラー
SKUFF
SKKK
YAYYAY
YAYYY
YAYY

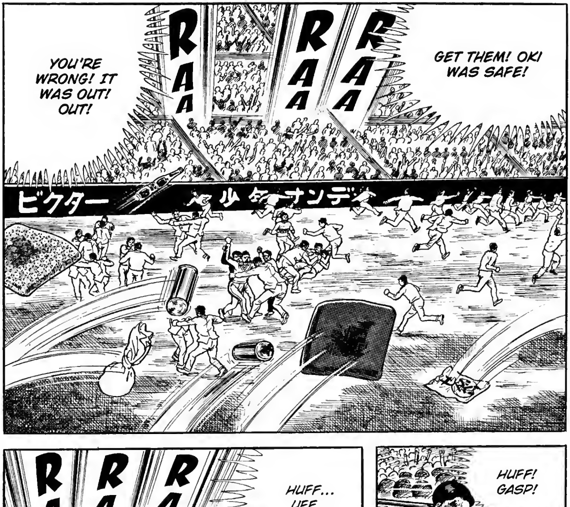

GIAN
GIAN
さく
GI

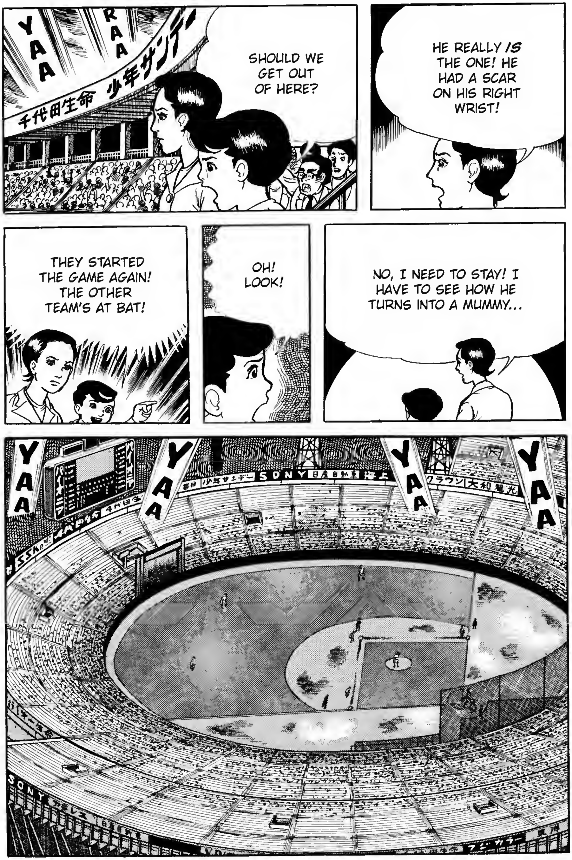

BAP
SHWOO

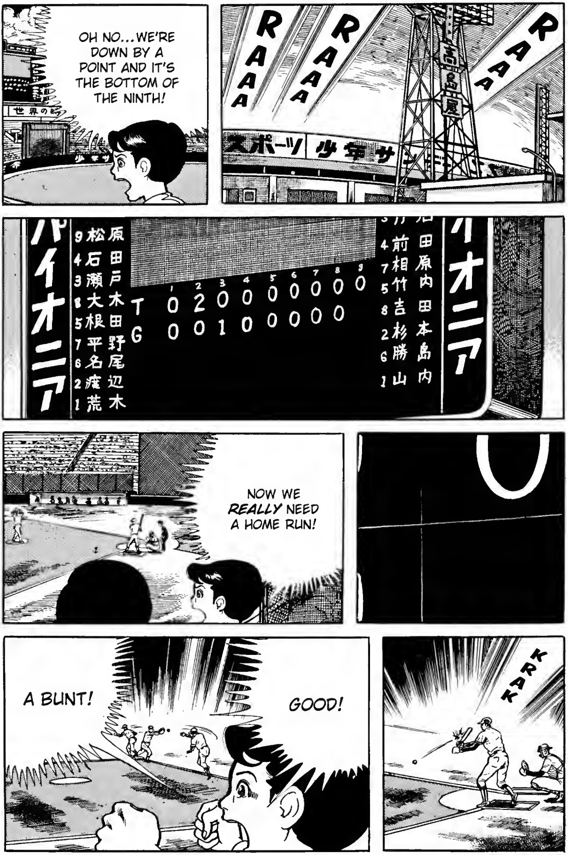

OUT!
SHE RUINED THE GAME! KILL HER!
YOU IDIOT!
RAA RAA
RAA RAA
SO HE'S THE ONE!
日本
AH!

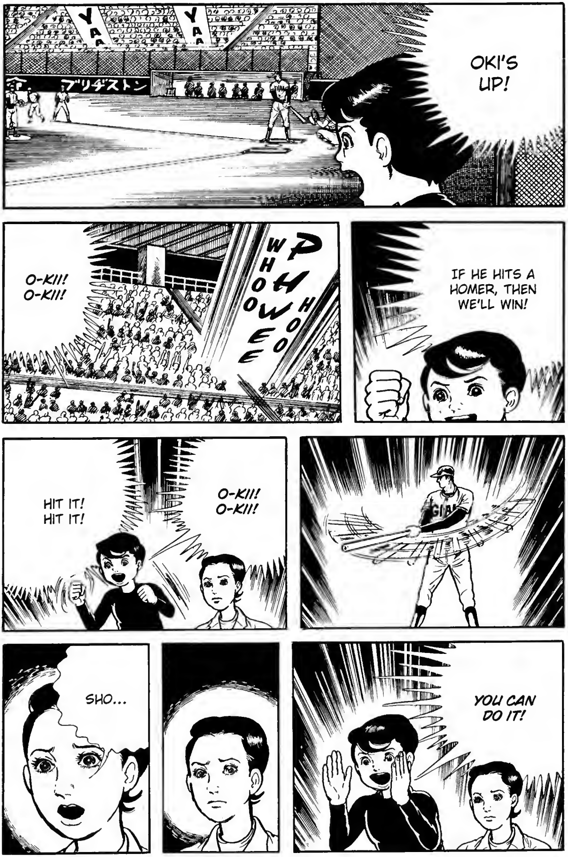

WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
KICK THE SHIT OUT OF HER!
OWW!
STOP IT!
SOMEBODY STOP THEM!
MRS. TAKAMATSU!
ON
少年

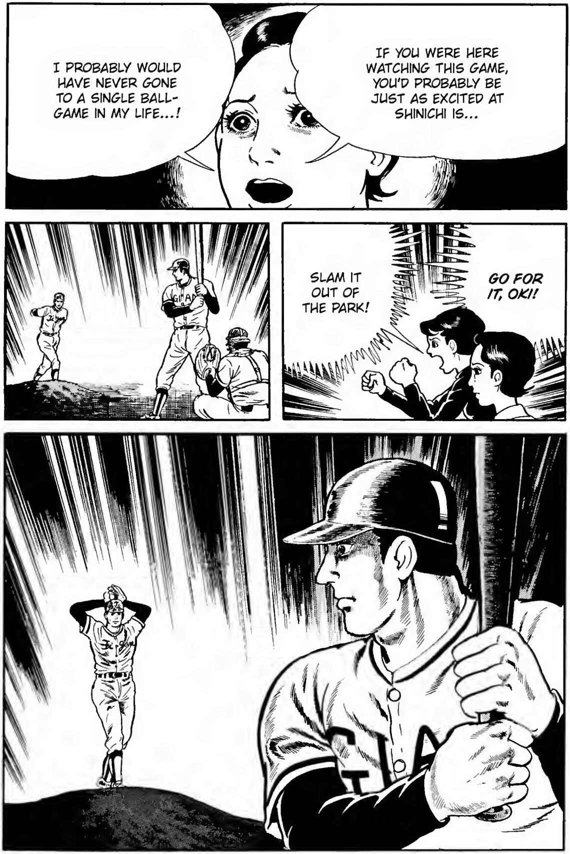

WAA WAA
WAA WAA
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR SEATS!
NO ONE IS ALLOWED ON THE FIELD DURING A GAME!
SONY
大和證券
火災
アキレス
ホームラン
チョコレート
BAD CALL! DO YOUR SLEEPING AT HOME, UMP!
ニホ
HE WAS SAFE!
NO WAY! HE WAS OUT, YOU BASTARD!
NO HE WASN'T! THAT WOMAN GOT IN THE WAY!
HE WASN'T SAFE! IT WAS OUT!
FUCK YOU, ASSHOLE!
MRS. TAKAMATSU!
COME ON, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
WAA WAA WAA
大和證券

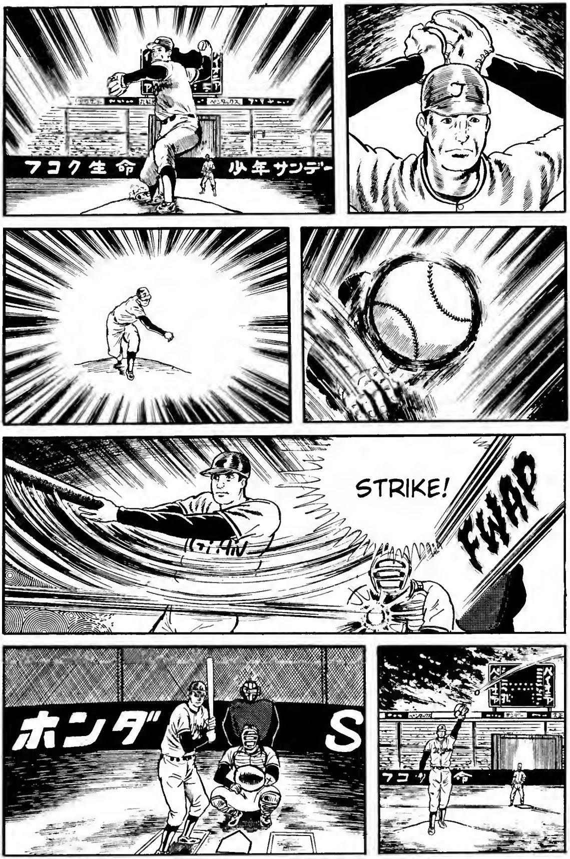

RAAA
RAAA
RAAA
GET THEM! OKI WAS SAFE!
YOU'RE WRONG! IT WAS OUT! OUT!
ビクター
HUFF! GASP!
RAAA
RAAA
RAAA
HUFF... UFF...
GASP... HFF...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MA'AM!?
I'M FINE. THAT WAS NOTHING.

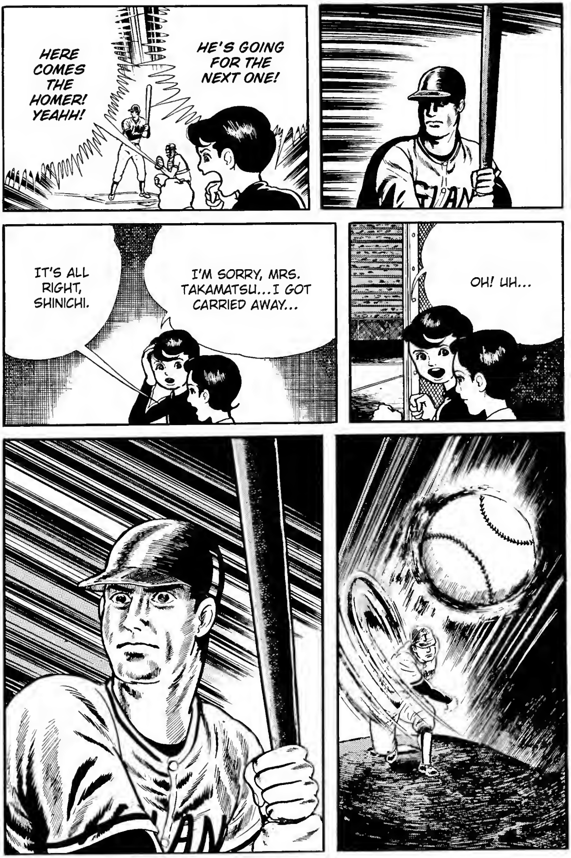

YAA
RAA
千代田生命 少年サンデー
SHOULD WE GET OUT OF HERE?
HE REALLY *IS* THE ONE! HE HAD A SCAR ON HIS RIGHT WRIST!
THEY STARTED THE GAME AGAIN! THE OTHER TEAM'S AT BAT!
OH! LOOK!
NO, I NEED TO STAY! I HAVE TO SEE HOW HE TURNS INTO A MUMMY...
YAA
YAA
YAA
YAA
少年サンデー
SONY
日産自動車
海上
クラウン
大和 観光
SONY

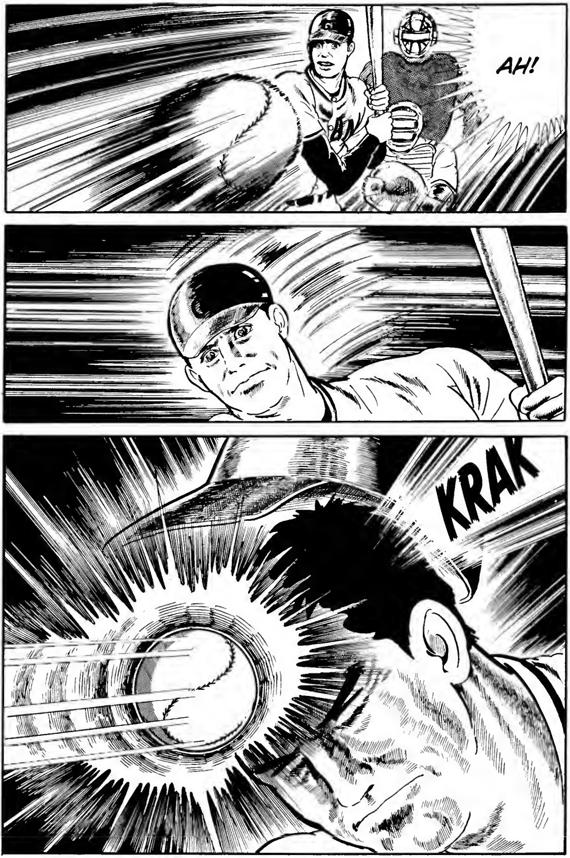

RAAA
RAAA
RAAA
高島屋
スポーツ 少年サン
OH NO...WE'RE DOWN BY A POINT AND IT'S THE BOTTOM OF THE NINTH!
世界の
パイオニア
9 松原
4 石田
3 瀬戸
8 大木
5 根田
7 平野
6 名尾
2 渡辺
1 荒木
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
T 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
G 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0
4 前田
7 相原
5 竹内
8 吉田
2 杉本
6 勝島
1 山内
パイオニア
NOW WE REALLY NEED A HOME RUN!
KRAK
A BUNT!
GOOD!

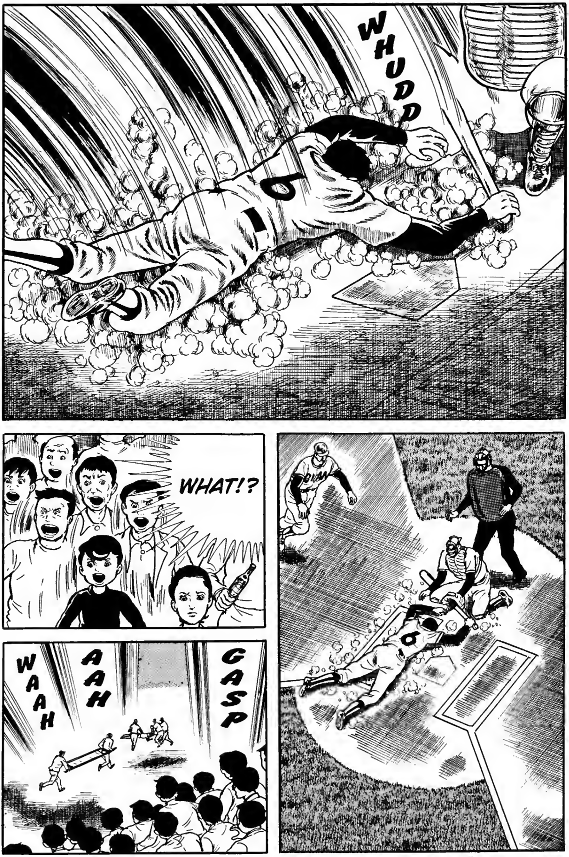

YAA
YAA
ブリヂストン
OKI'S UP!
O-KII! O-KII!
WHOOWEE
PHWHOOO
IF HE HITS A HOMER, THEN WE'LL WIN!
HIT IT! HIT IT!
O-KII! O-KII!
GIAN
SHO...
YOU CAN DO IT!

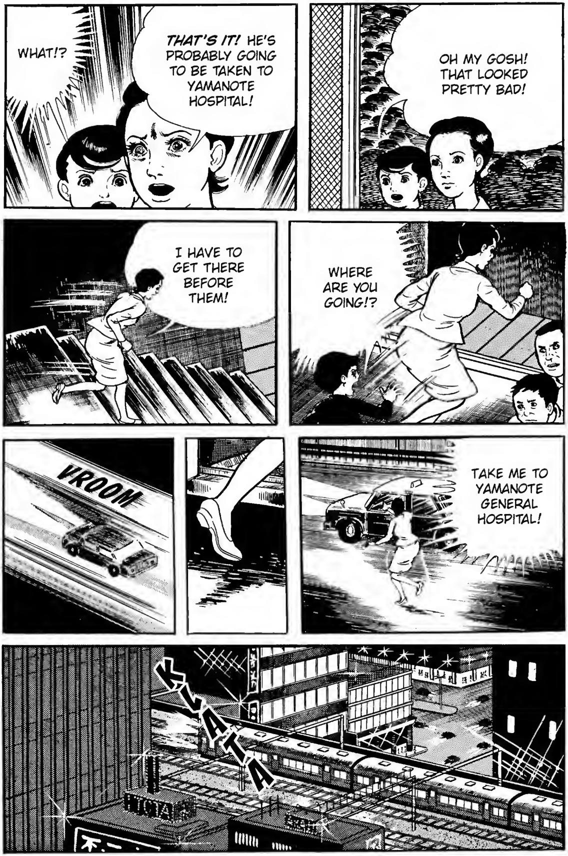

IF YOU WERE HERE WATCHING THIS GAME, YOU'D PROBABLY BE JUST AS EXCITED AT SHINICHI IS...
I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE NEVER GONE TO A SINGLE BALL-GAME IN MY LIFE...!
*GO FOR IT, OKI!*
SLAM IT OUT OF THE PARK!

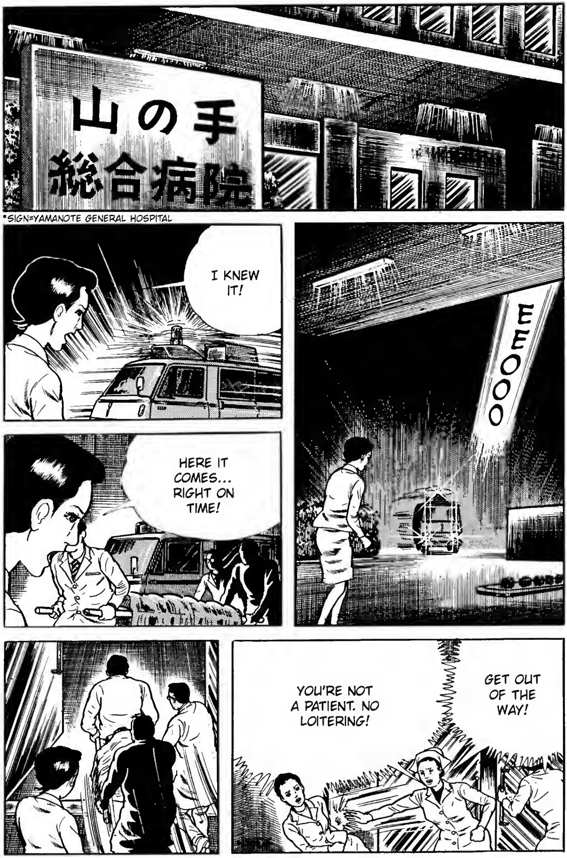

フコク生命
少年サンデー
ペンタックス
STRIKE!
FWAP
ホンダ
S
フコク生命


HE'S GOING FOR THE NEXT ONE!
HERE COMES THE HOMER! YEAHH!
OH! UH...
I'M SORRY, MRS. TAKAMATSU...I GOT CARRIED AWAY...
IT'S ALL RIGHT, SHINICHI.

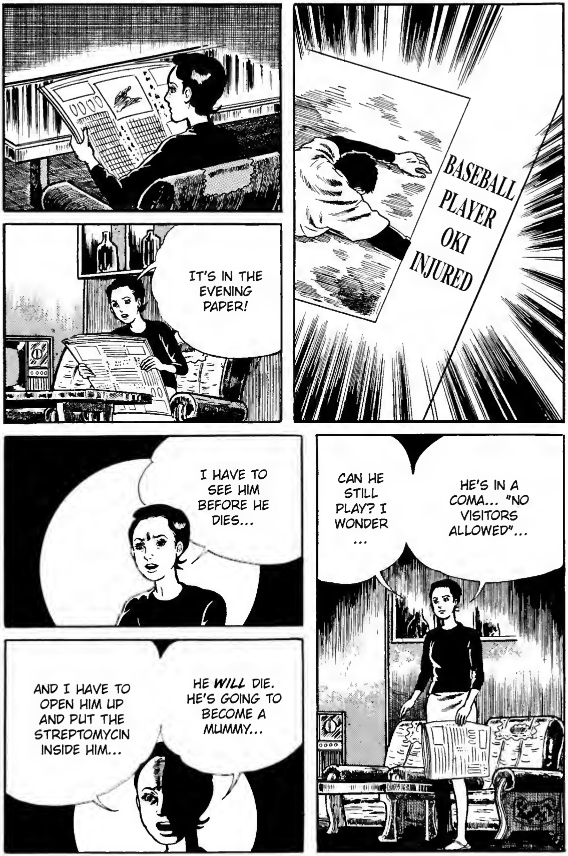

AH!
KRAK

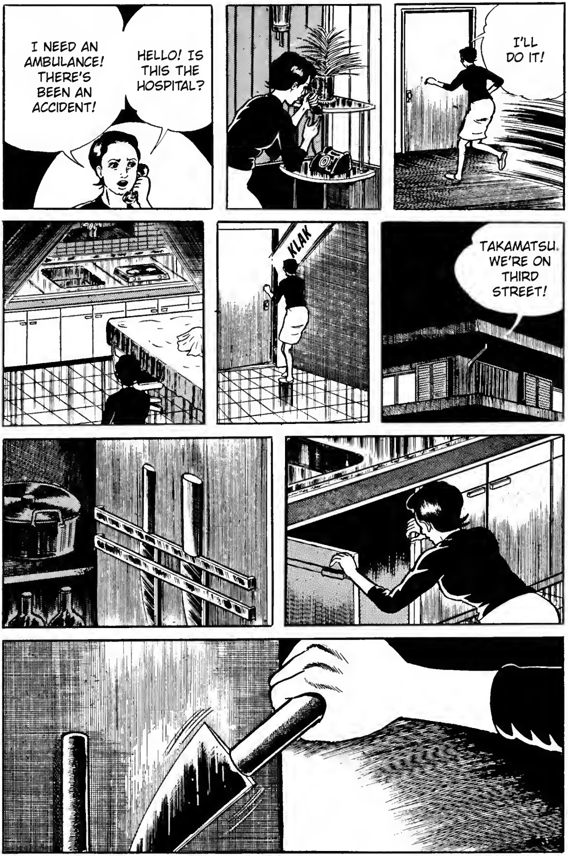

WHUDD
WHAT!?
WAAH
AAH
GASP

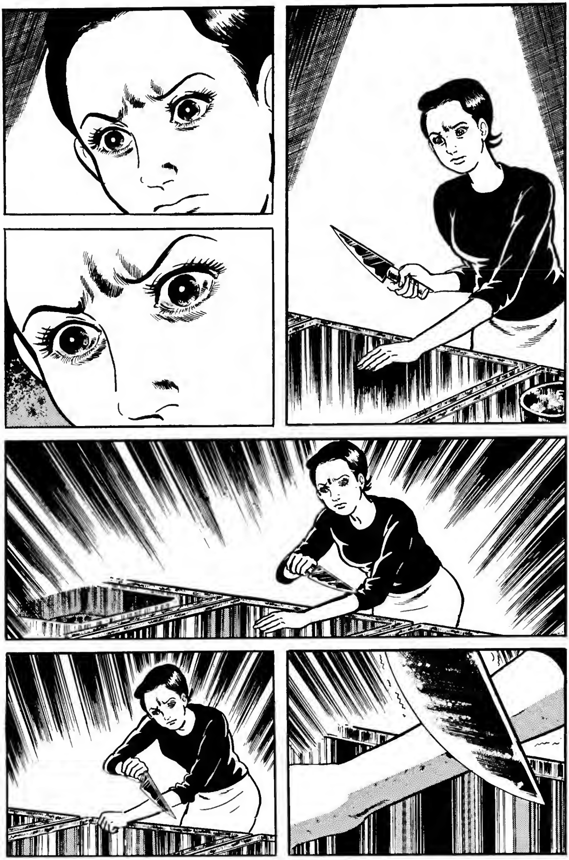

WHAT!?
*THAT'S IT!* HE'S PROBABLY GOING TO BE TAKEN TO YAMANOTE HOSPITAL!
OH MY GOSH! THAT LOOKED PRETTY BAD!
I HAVE TO GET THERE BEFORE THEM!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING!?
VROOM
TAKE ME TO YAMANOTE GENERAL HOSPITAL!
KLATA

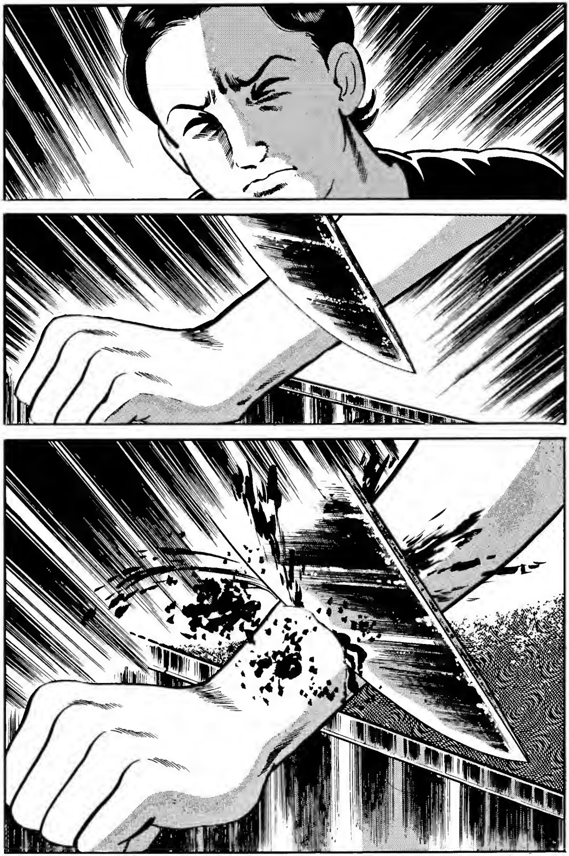

山の手
総合病院
EEOOO
I KNEW IT!
HERE IT COMES... RIGHT ON TIME!
GET OUT OF THE WAY!
YOU'RE NOT A PATIENT. NO LOITERING!

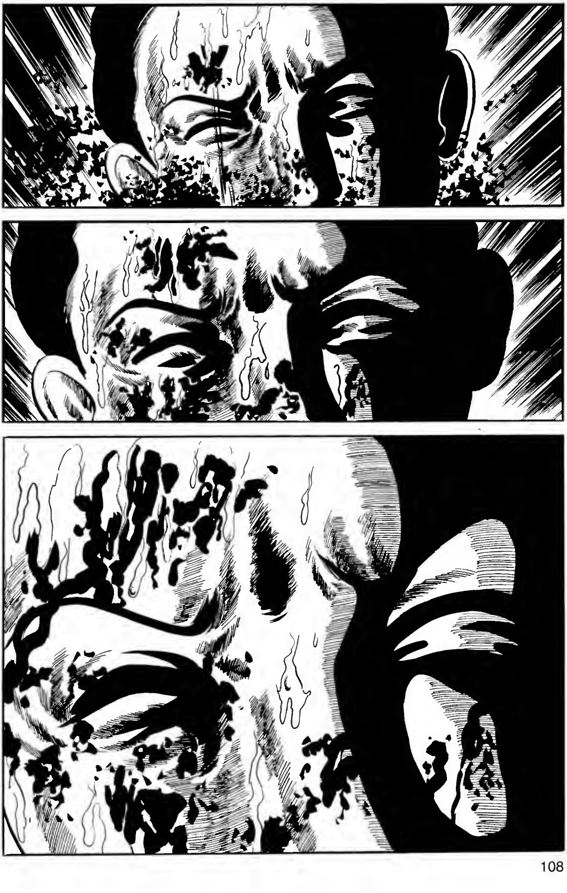
*SIGN=YAMANOTE GENERAL HOSPITAL

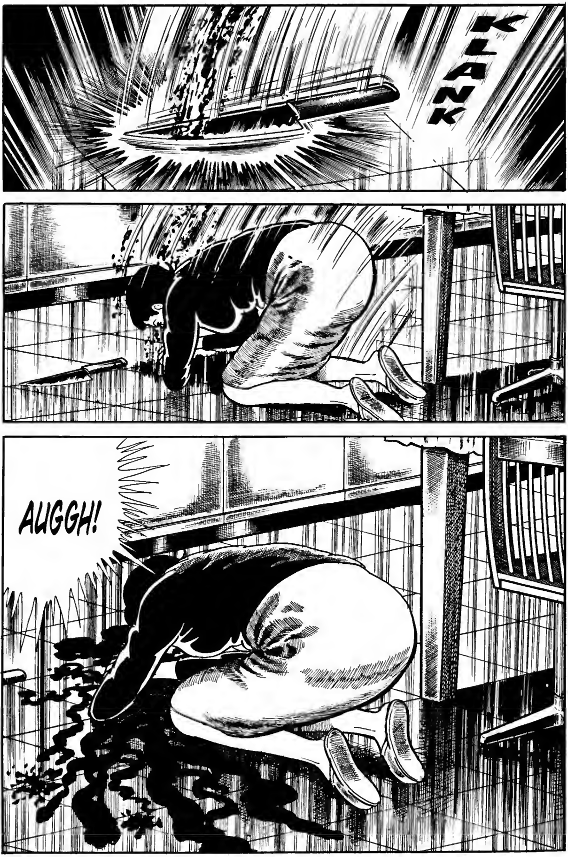

BASEBALL PLAYER OKI INJURED
IT'S IN THE EVENING PAPER!
HE'S IN A COMA... "NO VISITORS ALLOWED"...
CAN HE STILL PLAY? I WONDER ...
I HAVE TO SEE HIM BEFORE HE DIES...
HE *WILL* DIE. HE'S GOING TO BECOME A MUMMY...
AND I HAVE TO OPEN HIM UP AND PUT THE STREPTOMYCIN INSIDE HIM...

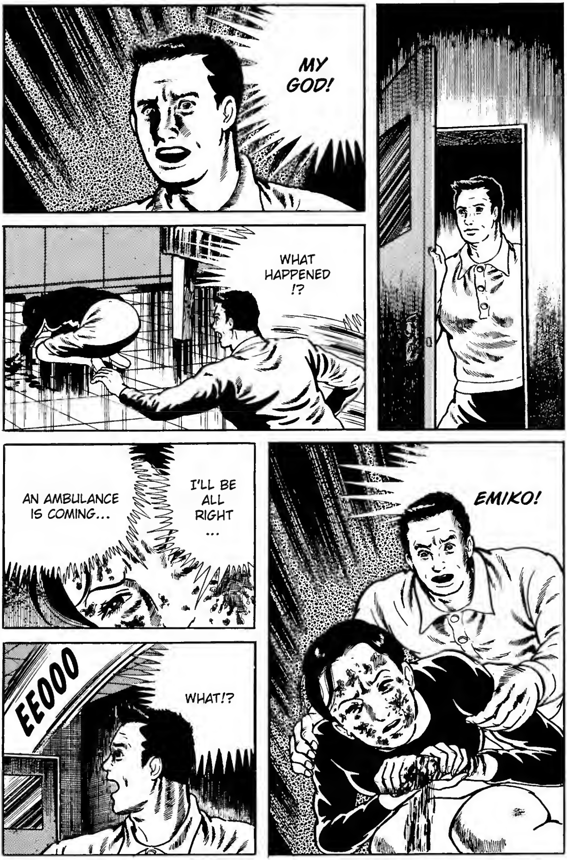

HELLO! IS THIS THE HOSPITAL?
I NEED AN AMBULANCE! THERE'S BEEN AN ACCIDENT!
I'LL DO IT!
KLAK
TAKAMATSU. WE'RE ON THIRD STREET!

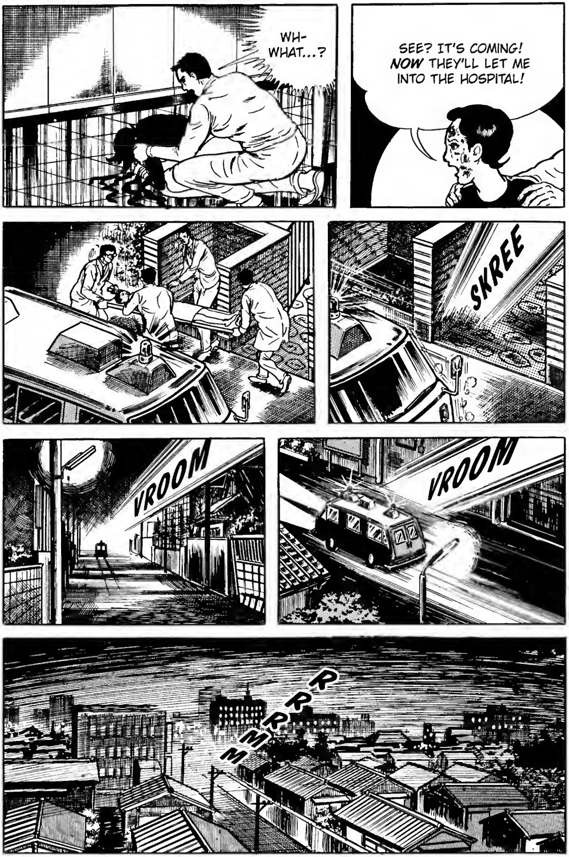


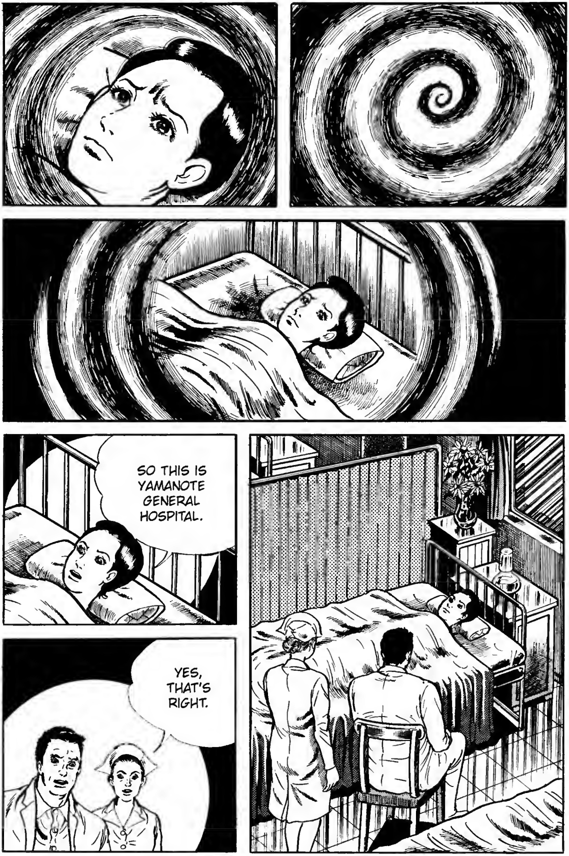


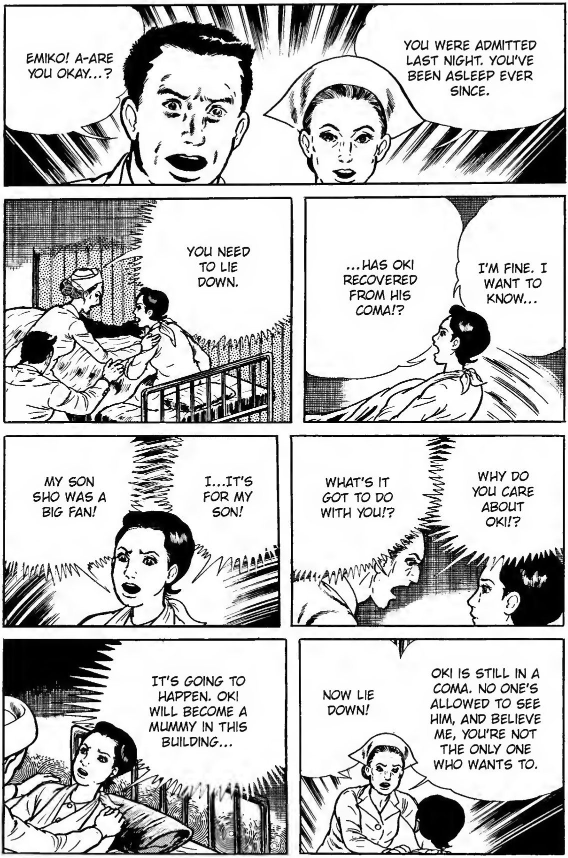


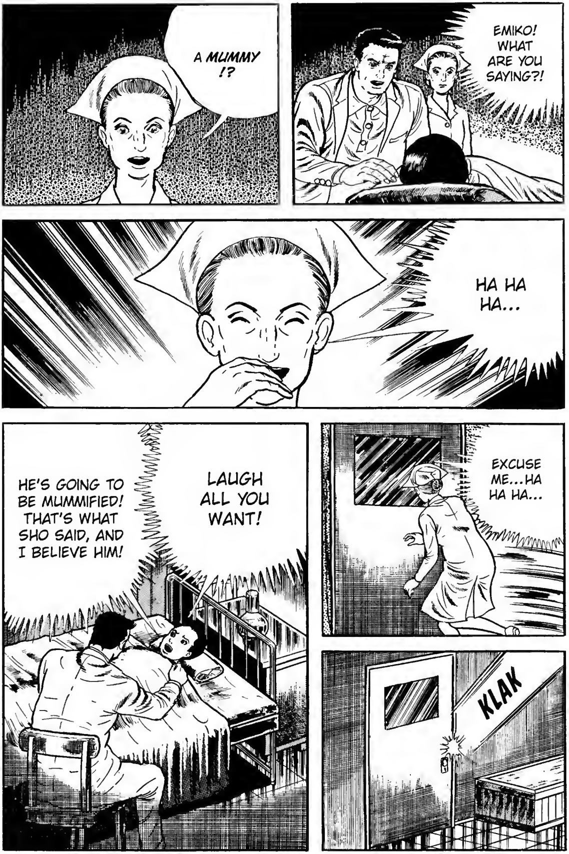

KLANK
AUGGH!

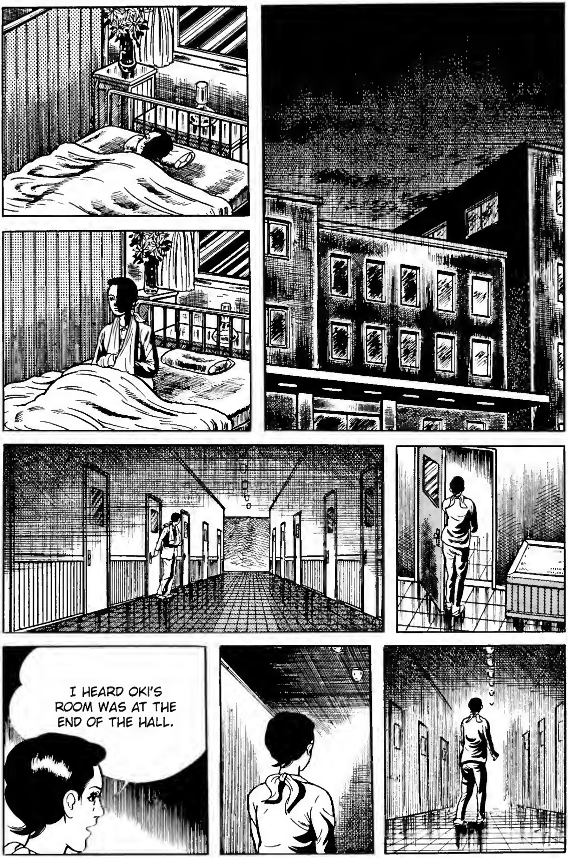

MY GOD!
WHAT HAPPENED !?
EMIKO!
I'LL BE ALL RIGHT ...
AN AMBULANCE IS COMING...
EEOOO
WHAT!?

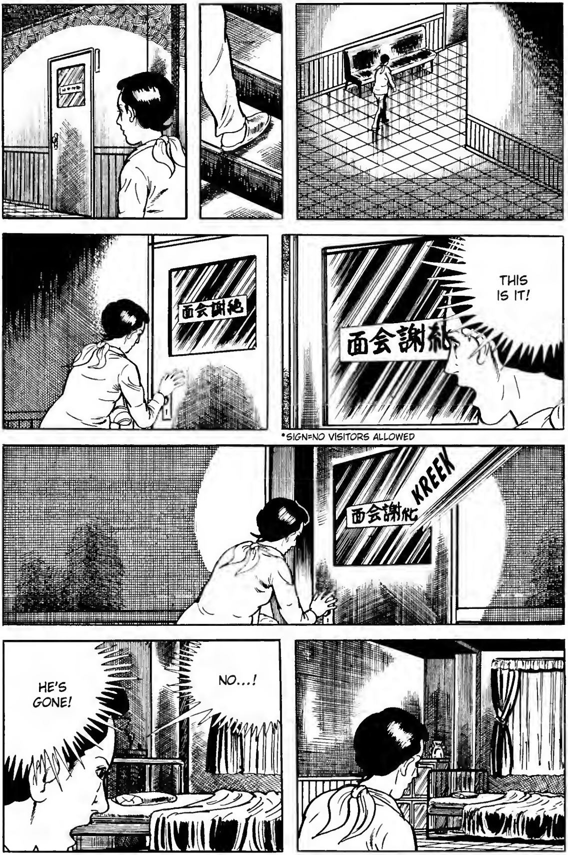

WH-
WHAT...?
SEE? IT'S COMING! ***NOW*** THEY'LL LET ME INTO THE HOSPITAL!
SKREE
VROOM
VROOM
RRRRMMM


SO THIS IS YAMANOTE GENERAL HOSPITAL.
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.

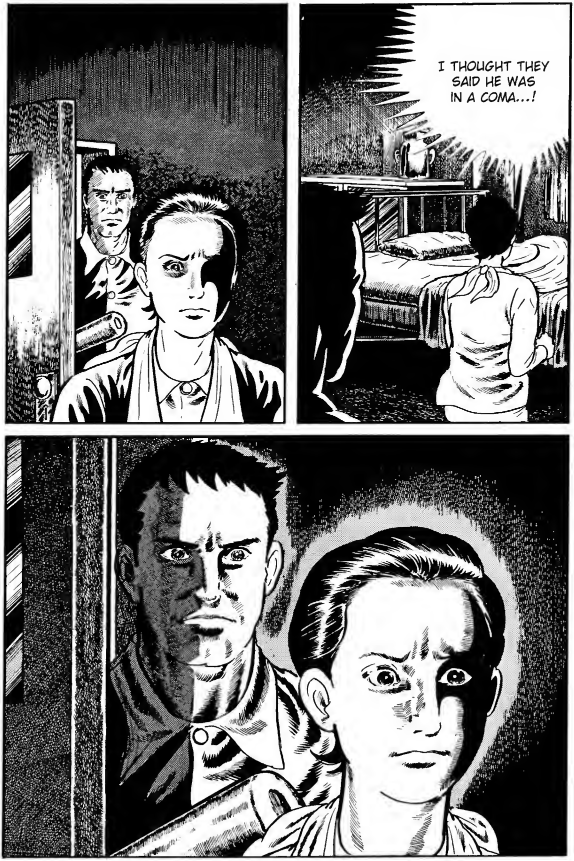

YOU WERE ADMITTED LAST NIGHT. YOU'VE BEEN ASLEEP EVER SINCE.
EMIKO! A-ARE YOU OKAY...?
I'M FINE. I WANT TO KNOW...
...HAS OKI RECOVERED FROM HIS COMA!?
YOU NEED TO LIE DOWN.
WHY DO YOU CARE ABOUT OKI!?
WHAT'S IT GOT TO DO WITH YOU!?
I...IT'S FOR MY SON!
MY SON SHO WAS A BIG FAN!
OKI IS STILL IN A COMA. NO ONE'S ALLOWED TO SEE HIM, AND BELIEVE ME, YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO WANTS TO.
NOW LIE DOWN!
IT'S GOING TO HAPPEN. OKI WILL BECOME A MUMMY IN THIS BUILDING...

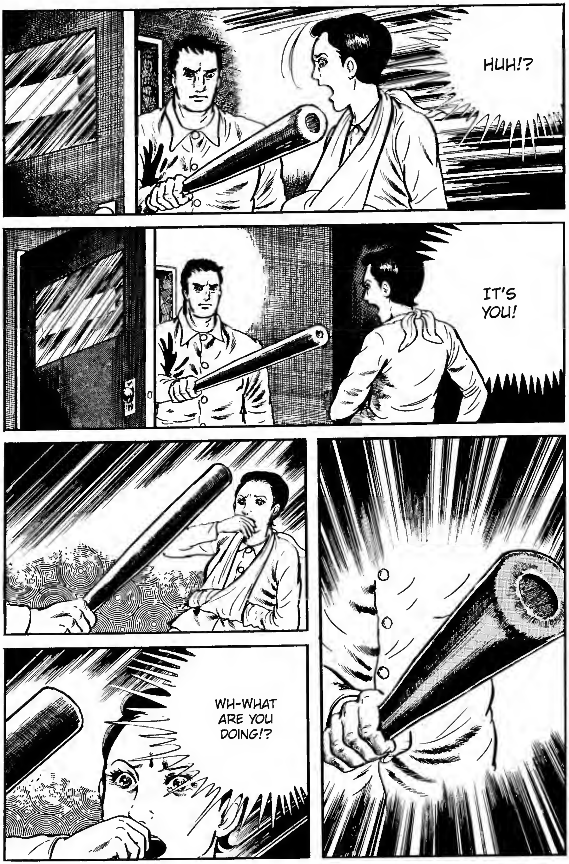

A *MUMMY* !?
EMIKO! WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!
HA HA HA...
LAUGH ALL YOU WANT!
HE'S GOING TO BE MUMMIFIED! THAT'S WHAT SHO SAID, AND I BELIEVE HIM!
EXCUSE ME...HA HA HA...
KLAK

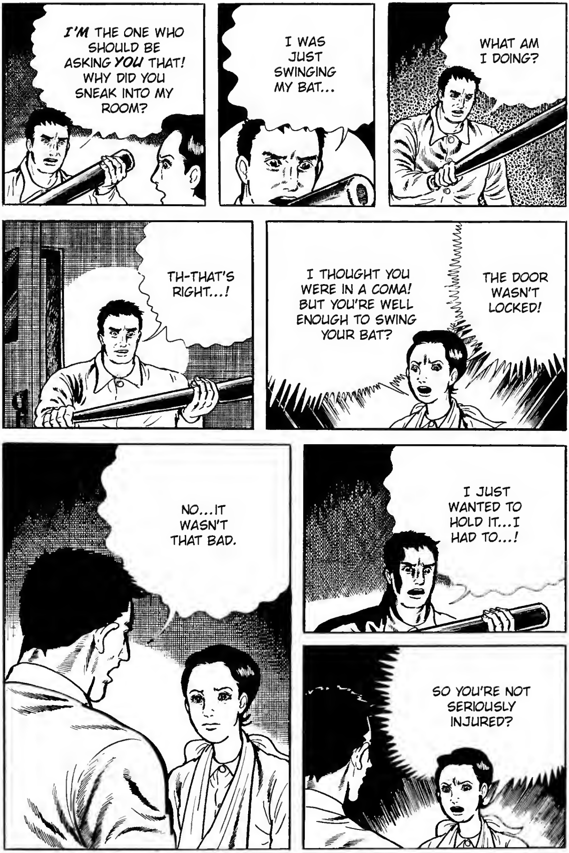

I HEARD OKI'S ROOM WAS AT THE END OF THE HALL.

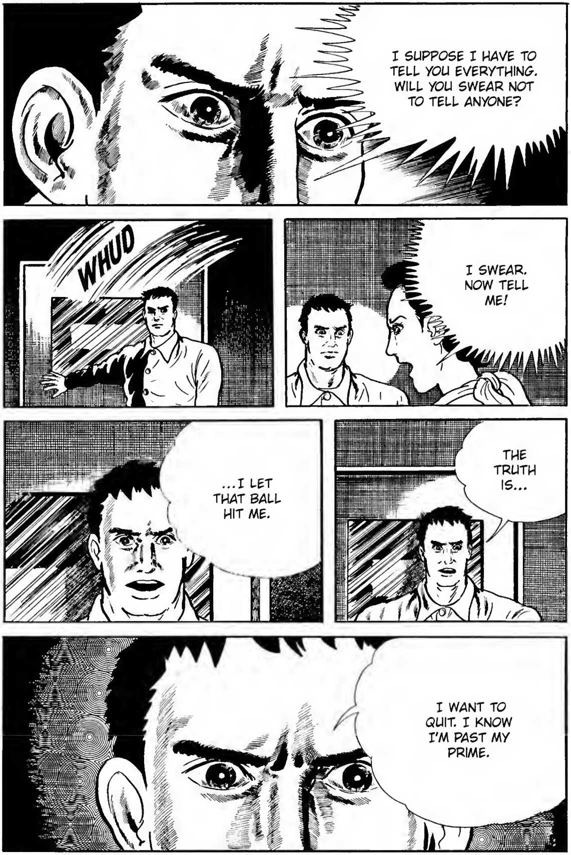

面会謝絶
面会謝絶
THIS IS IT!
KREEK
面会謝絶
HE'S GONE!
NO...!

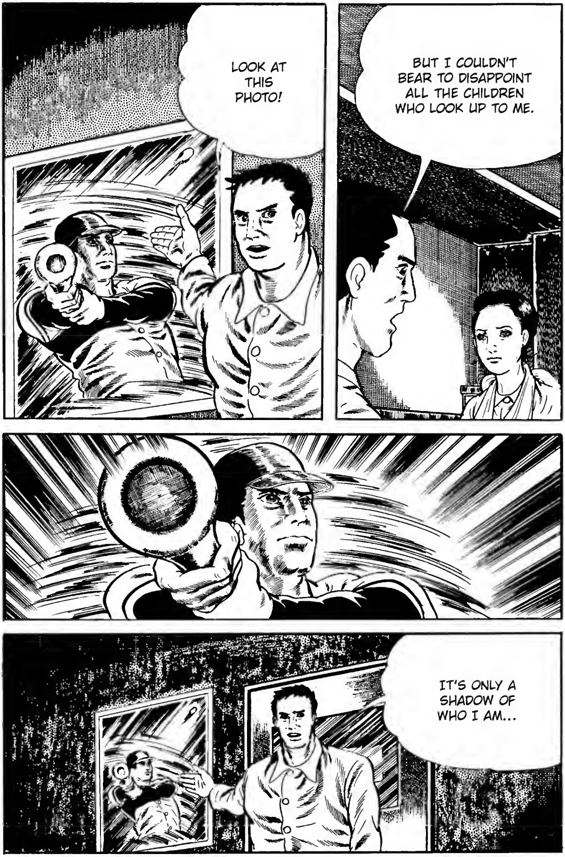
*SIGN=NO VISITORS ALLOWED

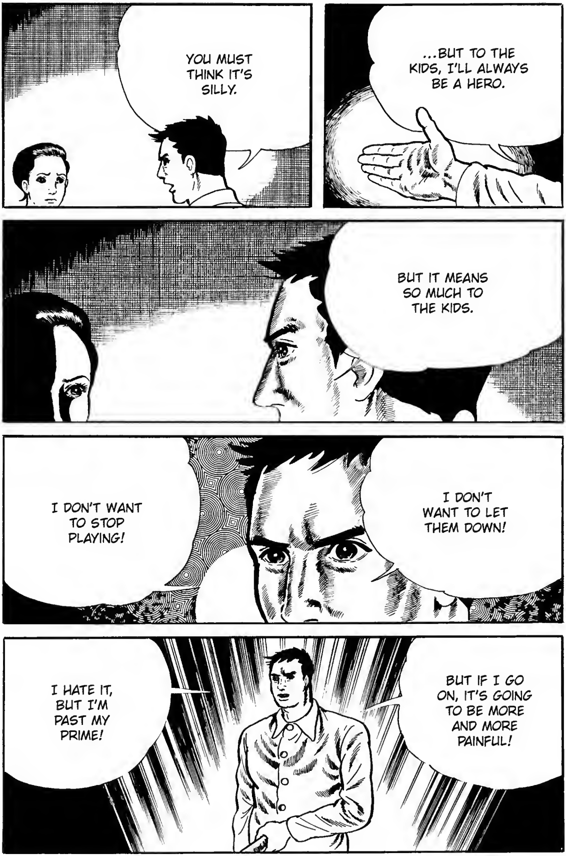

I THOUGHT THEY SAID HE WAS IN A COMA...!

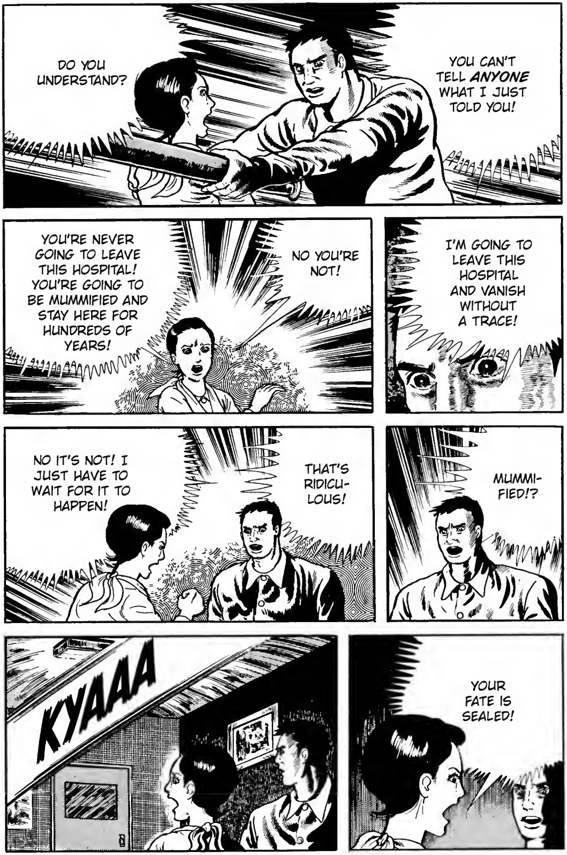

HUH!?
IT'S YOU!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

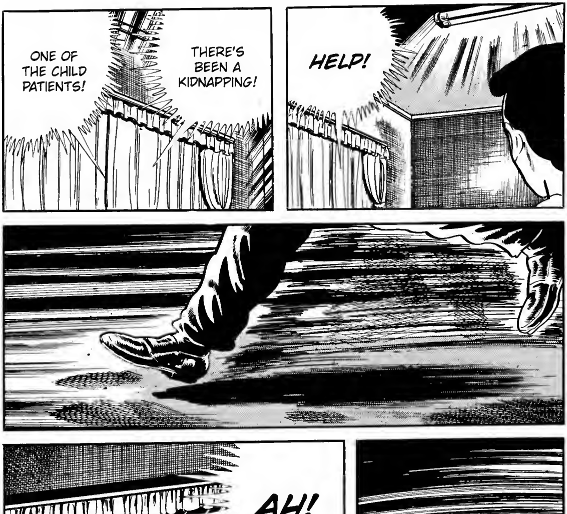

*I'M* THE ONE WHO SHOULD BE ASKING *YOU* THAT! WHY DID YOU SNEAK INTO MY ROOM?
I WAS JUST SWINGING MY BAT...
WHAT AM I DOING?
TH-THAT'S RIGHT...!
THE DOOR WASN'T LOCKED!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN A *COMA!* BUT YOU'RE WELL ENOUGH TO SWING YOUR BAT?
I JUST WANTED TO HOLD IT...I HAD TO...!
SO YOU'RE NOT SERIOUSLY INJURED?
NO...IT WASN'T THAT BAD.

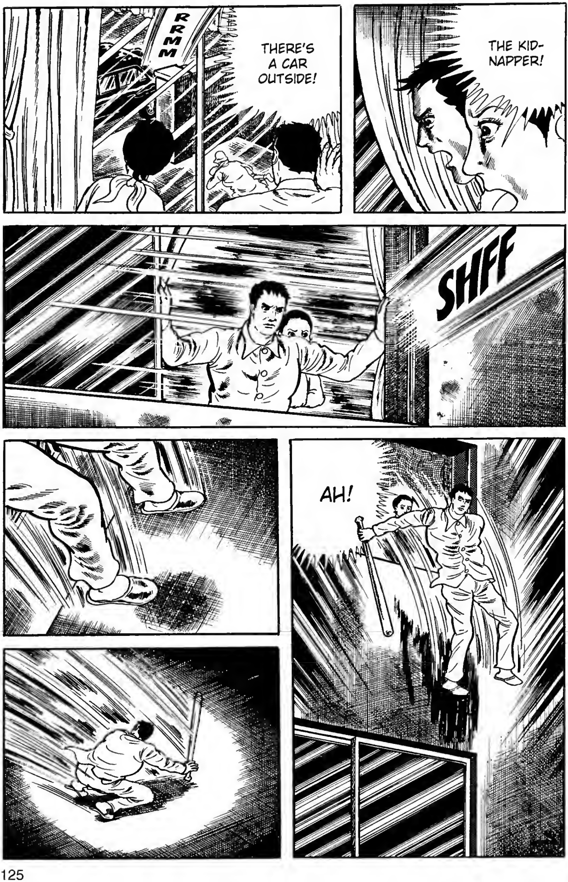

I SUPPOSE I HAVE TO TELL YOU EVERYTHING. WILL YOU SWEAR NOT TO TELL ANYONE?
I SWEAR. NOW TELL ME!
WHUD
THE TRUTH IS...
...I LET THAT BALL HIT ME.
I WANT TO QUIT. I KNOW I'M PAST MY PRIME.

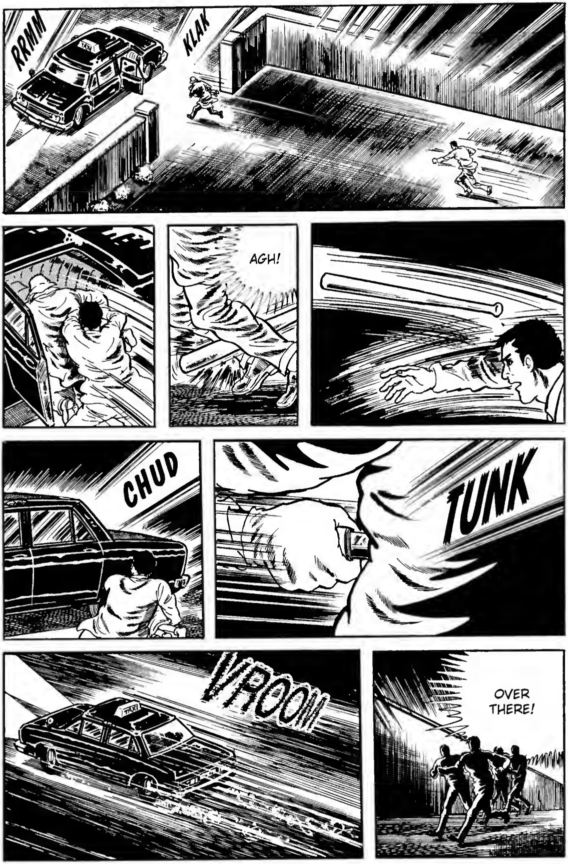

LOOK AT THIS PHOTO!
BUT I COULDN'T BEAR TO DISAPPOINT ALL THE CHILDREN WHO LOOK UP TO ME.
IT'S ONLY A SHADOW OF WHO I AM...

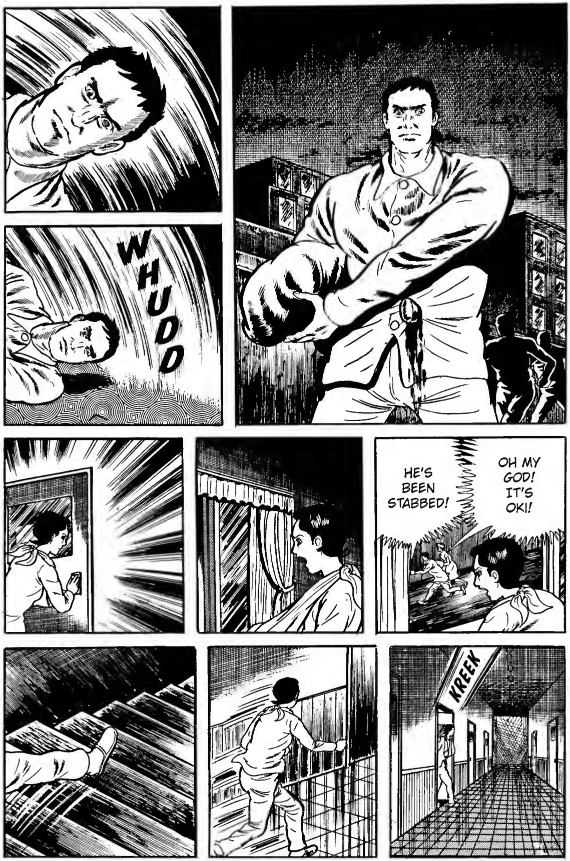

YOU MUST THINK IT'S SILLY.
...BUT TO THE KIDS, I'LL ALWAYS BE A HERO.
BUT IT MEANS SO MUCH TO THE KIDS.
I DON'T WANT TO STOP PLAYING!
I DON'T WANT TO LET THEM DOWN!
I HATE IT, BUT I'M PAST MY PRIME!
BUT IF I GO ON, IT'S GOING TO BE MORE AND MORE PAINFUL!

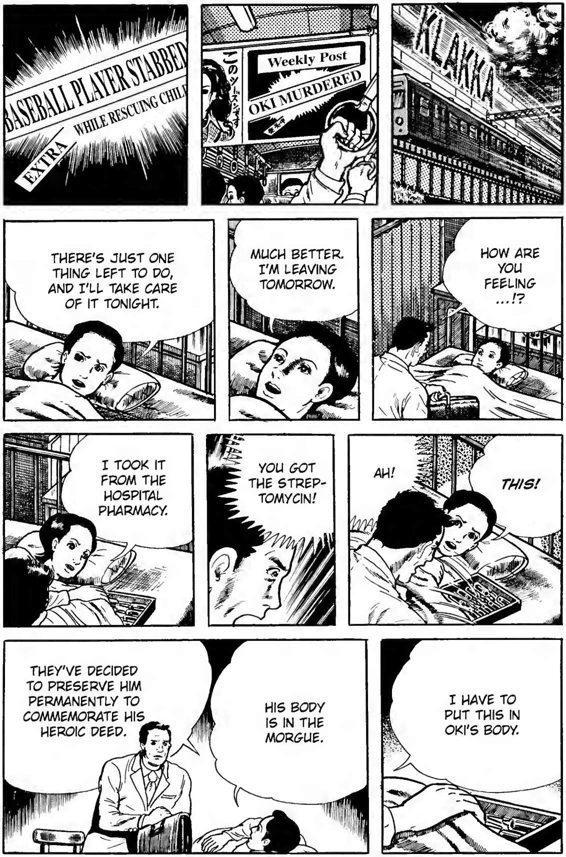

YOU CAN'T TELL *ANYONE* WHAT I JUST TOLD YOU!
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
I'M GOING TO LEAVE THIS HOSPITAL AND VANISH WITHOUT A TRACE!
NO YOU'RE NOT!
YOU'RE NEVER GOING TO LEAVE THIS HOSPITAL! YOU'RE GOING TO BE MUMMIFIED AND STAY HERE FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS!
MUMMIFIED!?
THAT'S RIDICULOUS!
NO IT'S NOT! I JUST HAVE TO WAIT FOR IT TO HAPPEN!
YOUR FATE IS SEALED!
KYAAA

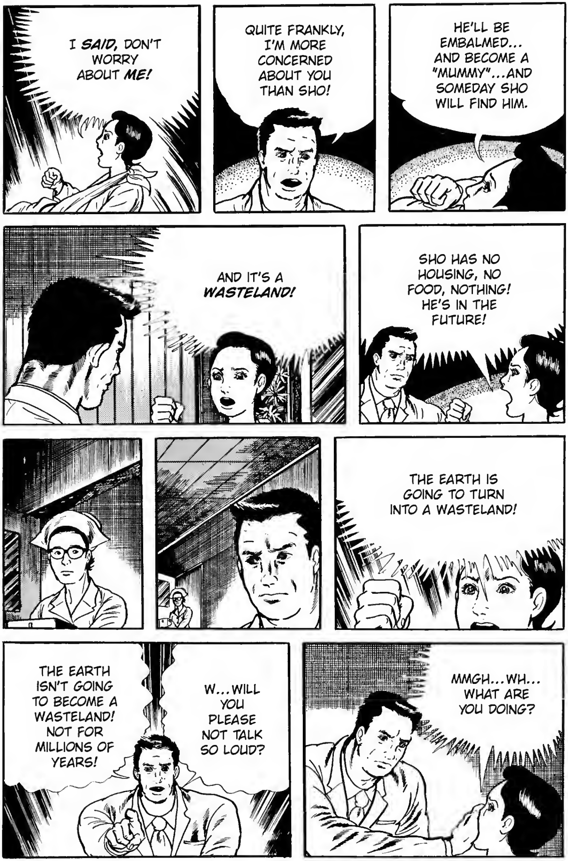

HELP!
THERE'S BEEN A KIDNAPPING!
ONE OF THE CHILD PATIENTS!
AH!

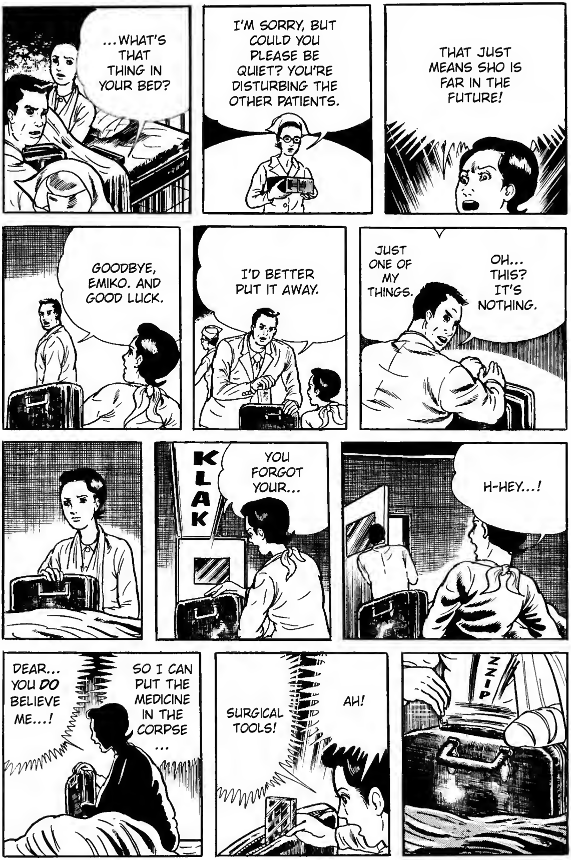

THE KID-NAPPER!
THERE'S A CAR OUTSIDE!
RRMM
SHFF
AH!

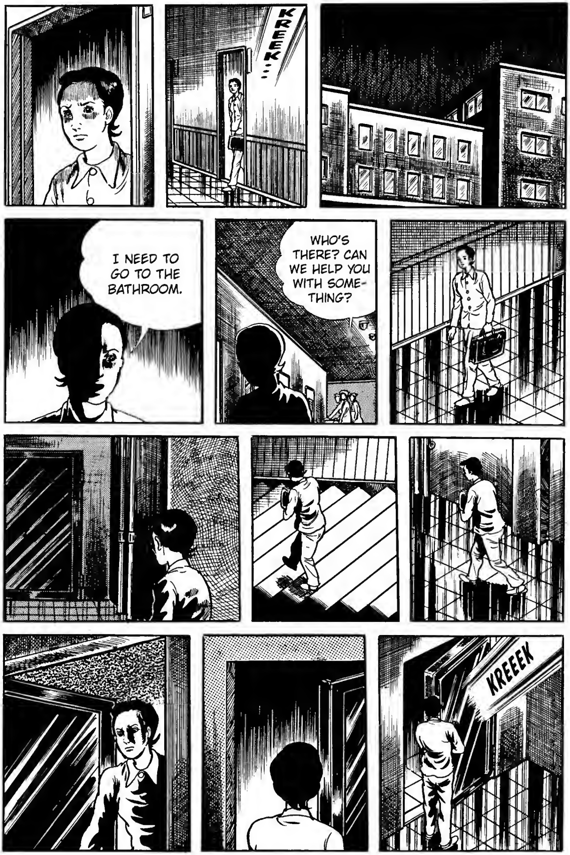

RRMM
KLAK
AGH!
CHUD
TUNK
VROOM
OVER THERE!

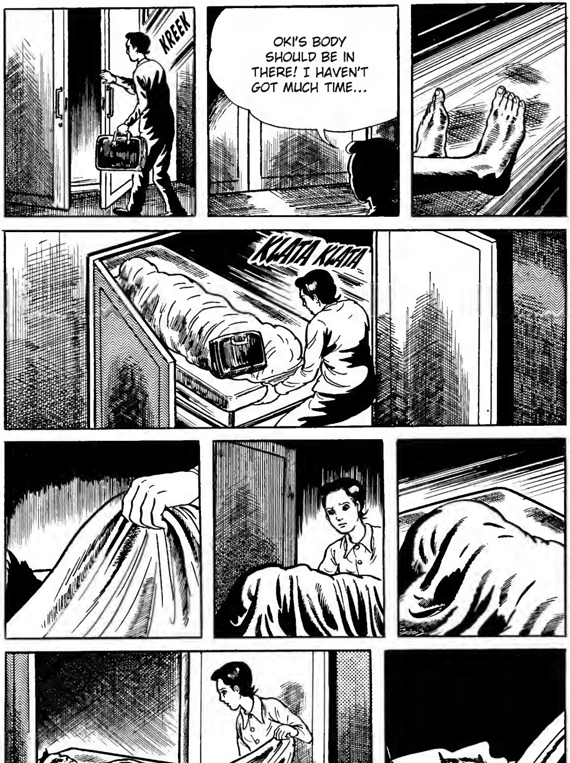

WHUDD
OH MY GOD! IT'S OKI!
HE'S BEEN STABBED!
KREEK

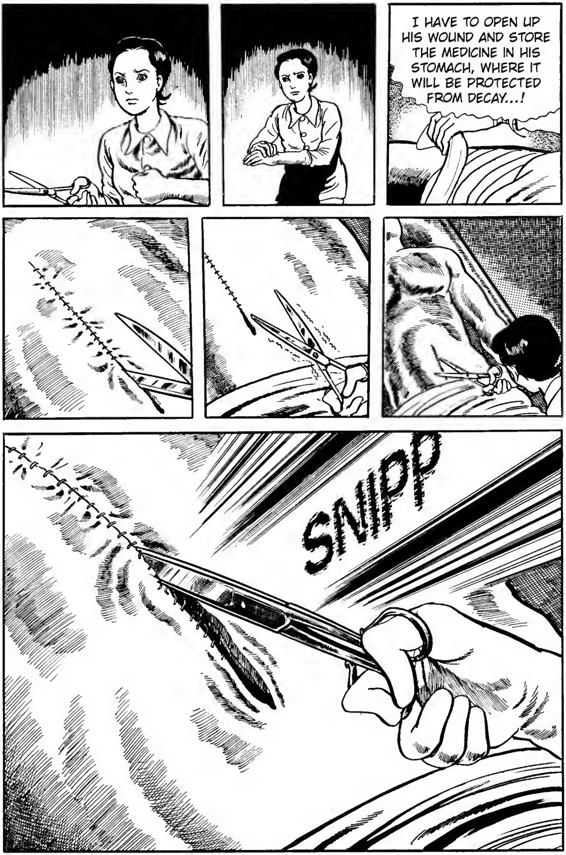

KLAKKA
Weekly Post
OKI MURDERED
EXTRA
BASEBALL PLAYER STABBED
WHILE RESCUING CHIL
HOW ARE YOU FEELING ...!?
MUCH BETTER. I'M LEAVING TOMORROW.
THERE'S JUST ONE THING LEFT TO DO, AND I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT TONIGHT.
THIS!
AH!
YOU GOT THE STREPTOMYCIN!
I TOOK IT FROM THE HOSPITAL PHARMACY.
I HAVE TO PUT THIS IN OKI'S BODY.
HIS BODY IS IN THE MORGUE.
THEY'VE DECIDED TO PRESERVE HIM PERMANENTLY TO COMMEMORATE HIS HEROIC DEED.

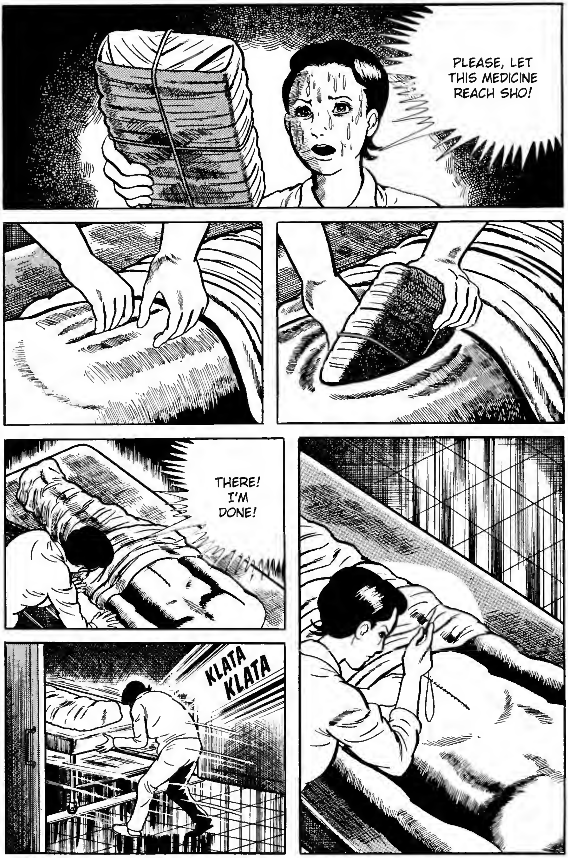

I SAID, DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME!
QUITE FRANKLY, I'M MORE CONCERNED ABOUT YOU THAN SHO!
HE'LL BE EMBALMED... AND BECOME A "MUMMY"...AND SOMEDAY SHO WILL FIND HIM.
AND IT'S A WASTELAND!
SHO HAS NO HOUSING, NO FOOD, NOTHING! HE'S IN THE FUTURE!
THE EARTH IS GOING TO TURN INTO A WASTELAND!
THE EARTH ISN'T GOING TO BECOME A WASTELAND! NOT FOR MILLIONS OF YEARS!
W...WILL YOU PLEASE NOT TALK SO LOUD?
MMGH...WH... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

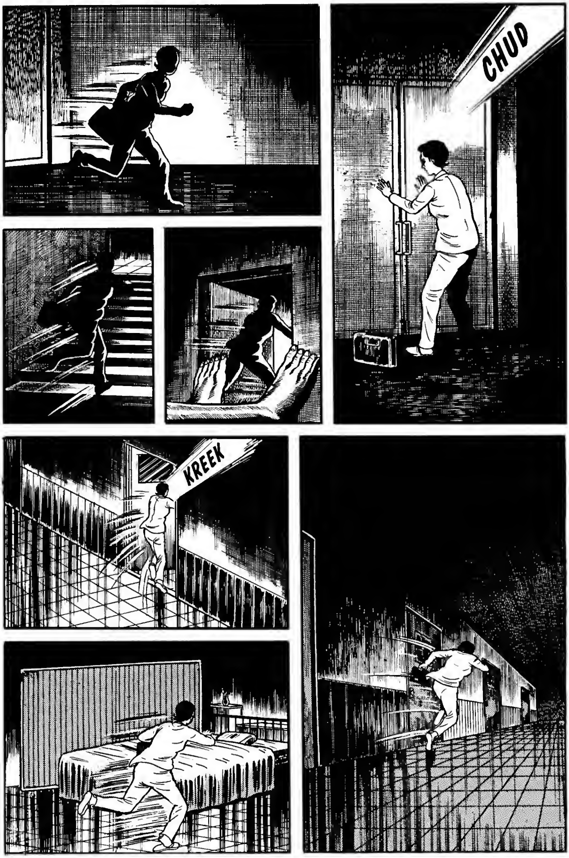

THAT JUST MEANS SHO IS FAR IN THE FUTURE!
I'M SORRY, BUT COULD YOU PLEASE BE QUIET? YOU'RE DISTURBING THE OTHER PATIENTS.
...WHAT'S THAT THING IN YOUR BED?
OH... THIS? IT'S NOTHING.
JUST ONE OF MY THINGS.
I'D BETTER PUT IT AWAY.
GOODBYE, EMIKO. AND GOOD LUCK.
H-HEY...!
YOU FORGOT YOUR...
KLAK
ZZIP
AH!
SURGICAL TOOLS!
SO I CAN PUT THE MEDICINE IN THE CORPSE...
DEAR... YOU *DO* BELIEVE ME...!

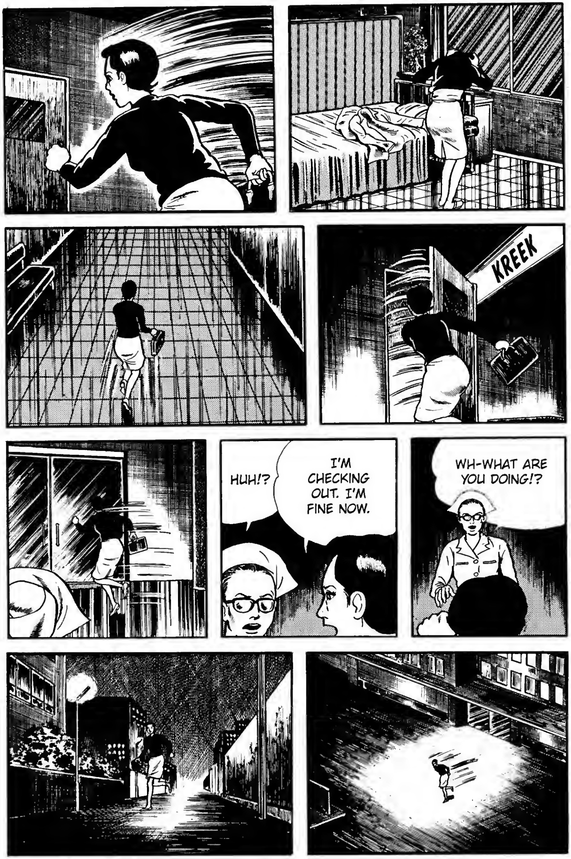

KREEK…
WHO'S THERE? CAN WE HELP YOU WITH SOMETHING?
I NEED TO GO TO THE BATHROOM.
KREEEK

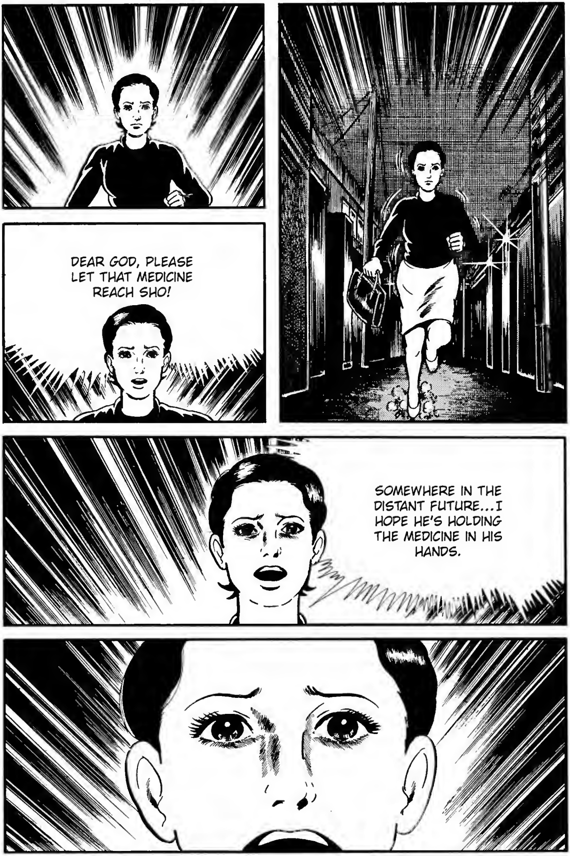

KREEK
OKI'S BODY SHOULD BE IN THERE! I HAVEN'T GOT MUCH TIME...
KLATA KLATA

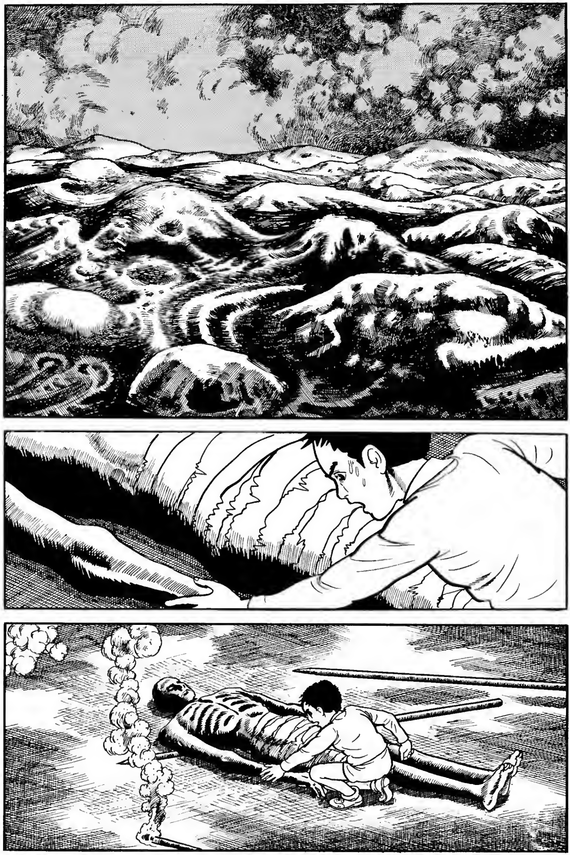

I HAVE TO OPEN UP HIS WOUND AND STORE THE MEDICINE IN HIS STOMACH, WHERE IT WILL BE PROTECTED FROM DECAY...!
SNIPP

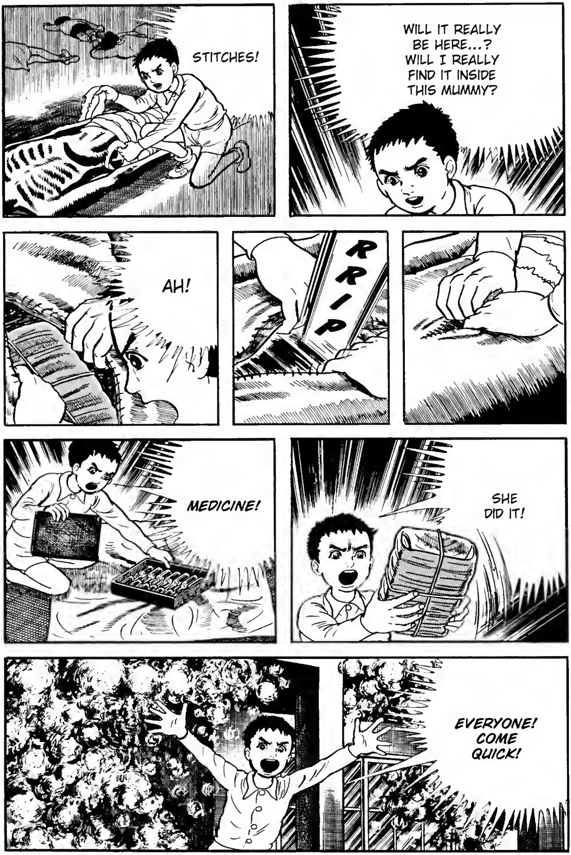

PLEASE, LET THIS MEDICINE REACH SHO!
THERE! I'M DONE!
KLATA KLATA

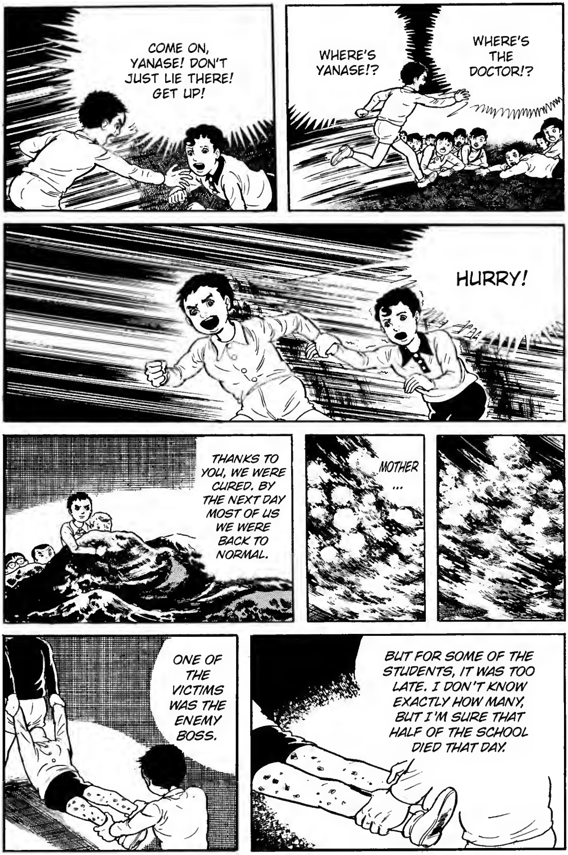

CHUD
KREEK

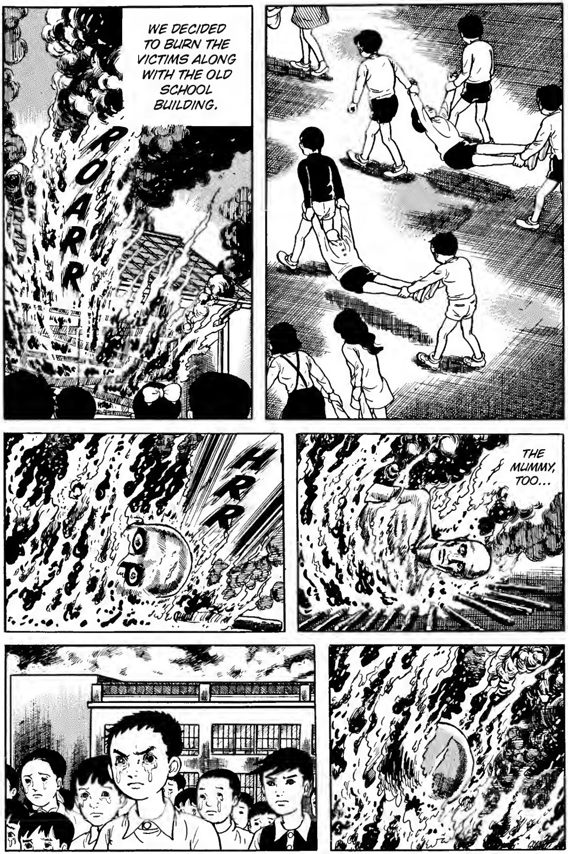

KREEK
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
I'M CHECKING OUT. I'M FINE NOW.
HUH!?

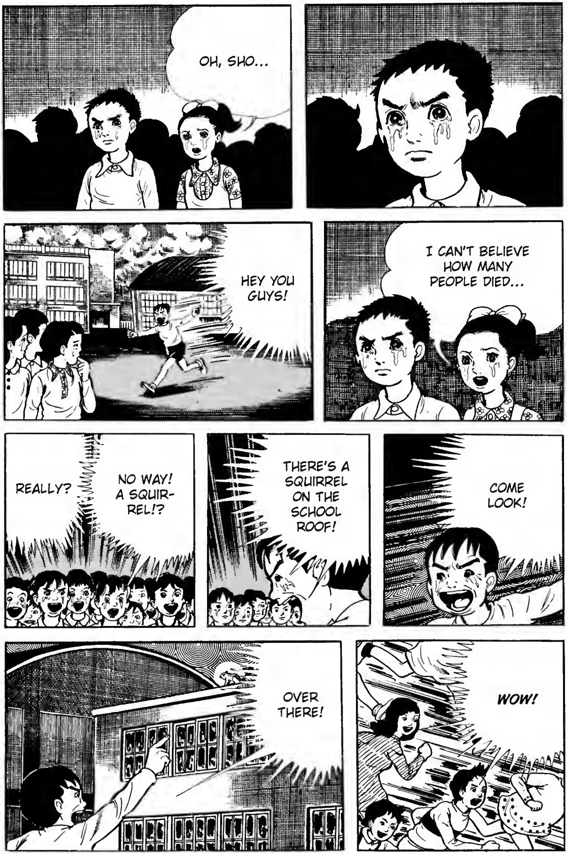

DEAR GOD, PLEASE LET THAT MEDICINE REACH SHO!
SOMEWHERE IN THE DISTANT FUTURE...I HOPE HE'S HOLDING THE MEDICINE IN HIS HANDS.

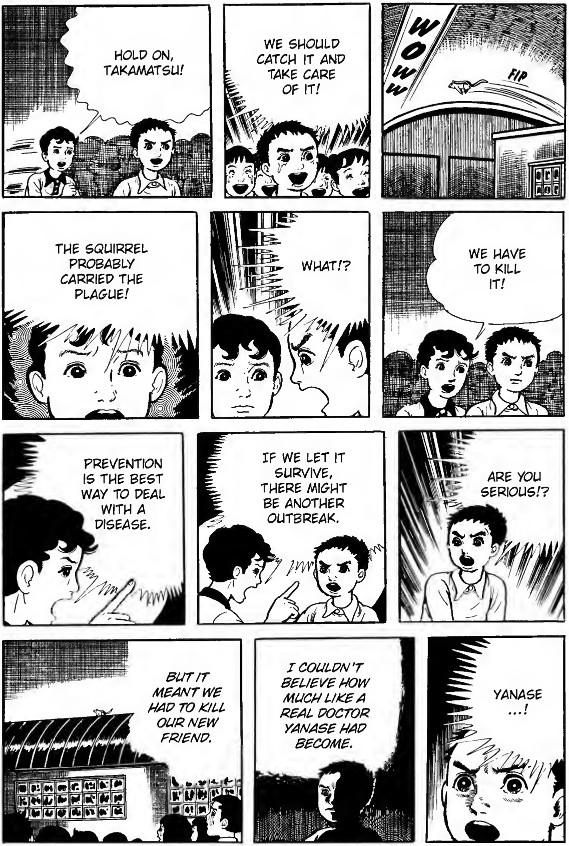


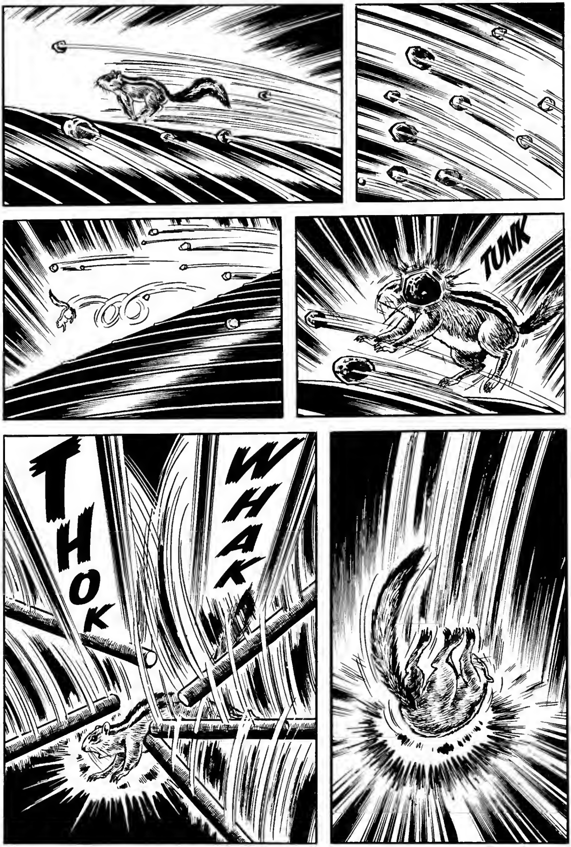

STITCHES!
WILL IT REALLY BE HERE...? WILL I REALLY FIND IT INSIDE THIS MUMMY?
AH!
RRIP
MEDICINE!
SHE DID IT!
EVERYONE! COME QUICK!

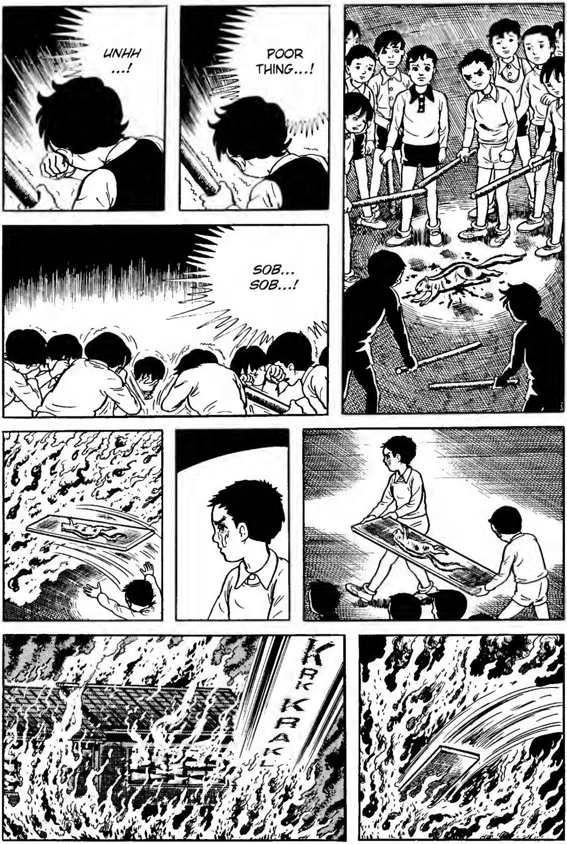

COME ON, YANASE! DON'T JUST LIE THERE! GET UP!
WHERE'S YANASE!?
WHERE'S THE DOCTOR!?
HURRY!
THANKS TO YOU, WE WERE CURED. BY THE NEXT DAY MOST OF US WE WERE BACK TO NORMAL.
MOTHER ...
ONE OF THE VICTIMS WAS THE ENEMY BOSS.
BUT FOR SOME OF THE STUDENTS, IT WAS TOO LATE. I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY HOW MANY, BUT I'M SURE THAT HALF OF THE SCHOOL DIED THAT DAY.

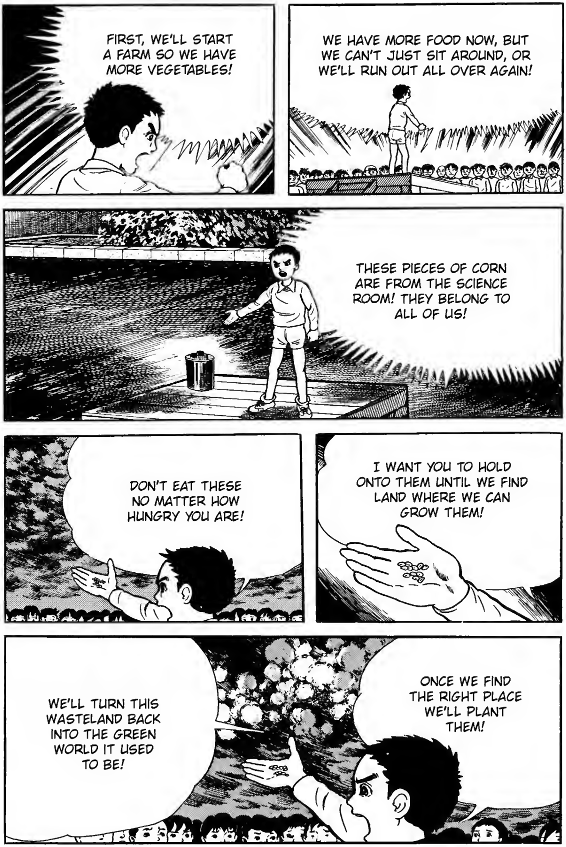

WE DECIDED TO BURN THE VICTIMS ALONG WITH THE OLD SCHOOL BUILDING.
ROARR
HRR
THE MUMMY, TOO...

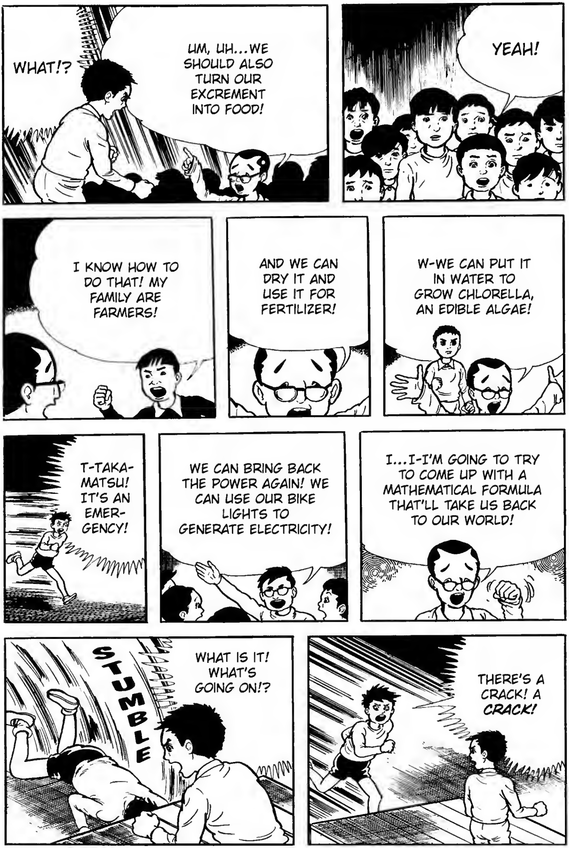

OH, SHO...
I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW MANY PEOPLE DIED...
HEY YOU GUYS!
COME LOOK!
THERE'S A SQUIRREL ON THE SCHOOL ROOF!
NO WAY! A SQUIRREL!?
REALLY?
WOW!
OVER THERE!


HOLD ON, TAKAMATSU!
WE SHOULD CATCH IT AND TAKE CARE OF IT!
WOW
FIP
THE SQUIRREL PROBABLY CARRIED THE PLAGUE!
WHAT!?
WE HAVE TO KILL IT!
PREVENTION IS THE BEST WAY TO DEAL WITH A DISEASE.
IF WE LET IT SURVIVE, THERE MIGHT BE ANOTHER OUTBREAK.
ARE YOU SERIOUS!?
BUT IT MEANT WE HAD TO KILL OUR NEW FRIEND.
I COULDN'T BELIEVE HOW MUCH LIKE A REAL DOCTOR YANASE HAD BECOME.
YANASE ...!


TUNK
THOK
WHAKA

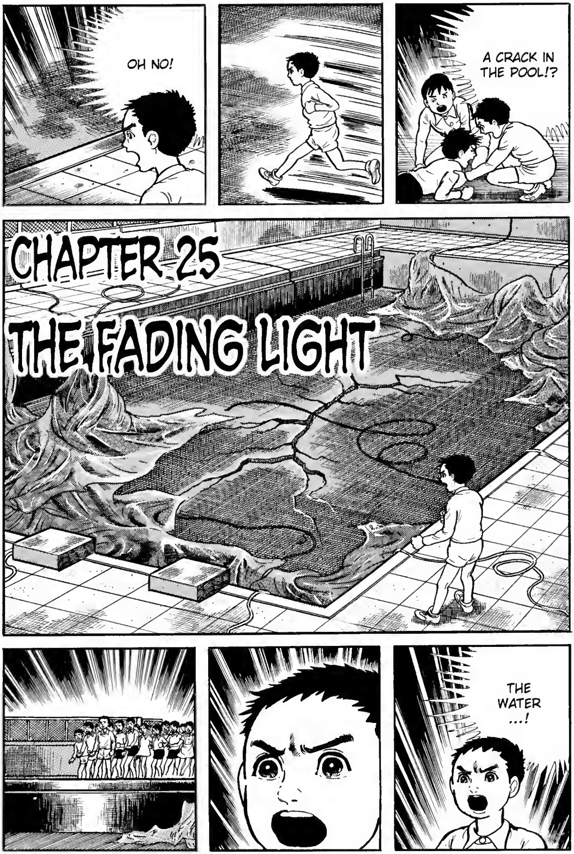

UNHH ...!
POOR THING...!
SOB... SOB...!
KRK KRAK!

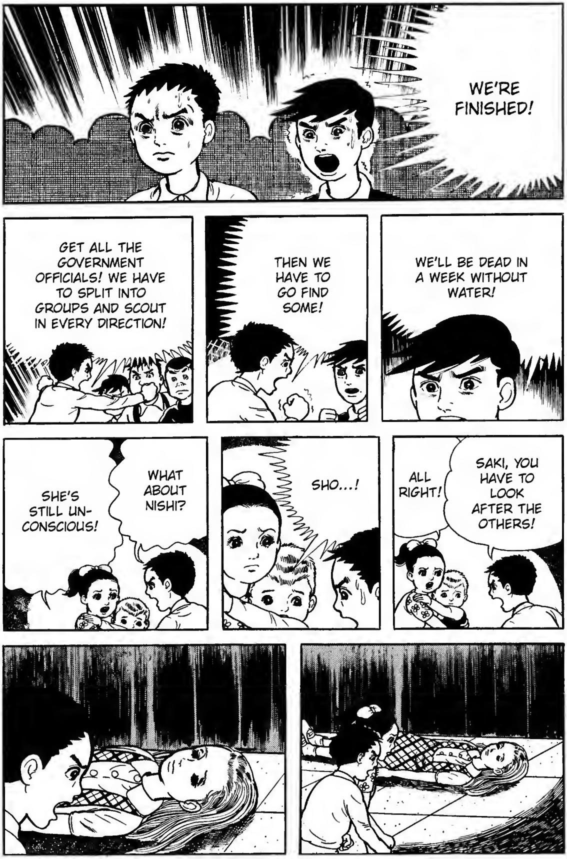

WE HAVE MORE FOOD NOW, BUT WE CAN'T JUST SIT AROUND, OR WE'LL RUN OUT ALL OVER AGAIN!
FIRST, WE'LL START A FARM SO WE HAVE MORE VEGETABLES!
THESE PIECES OF CORN ARE FROM THE SCIENCE ROOM! THEY BELONG TO ALL OF US!
I WANT YOU TO HOLD ONTO THEM UNTIL WE FIND LAND WHERE WE CAN GROW THEM!
DON'T EAT THESE NO MATTER HOW HUNGRY YOU ARE!
ONCE WE FIND THE RIGHT PLACE WE'LL PLANT THEM!
WE'LL TURN THIS WASTELAND BACK INTO THE GREEN WORLD IT USED TO BE!

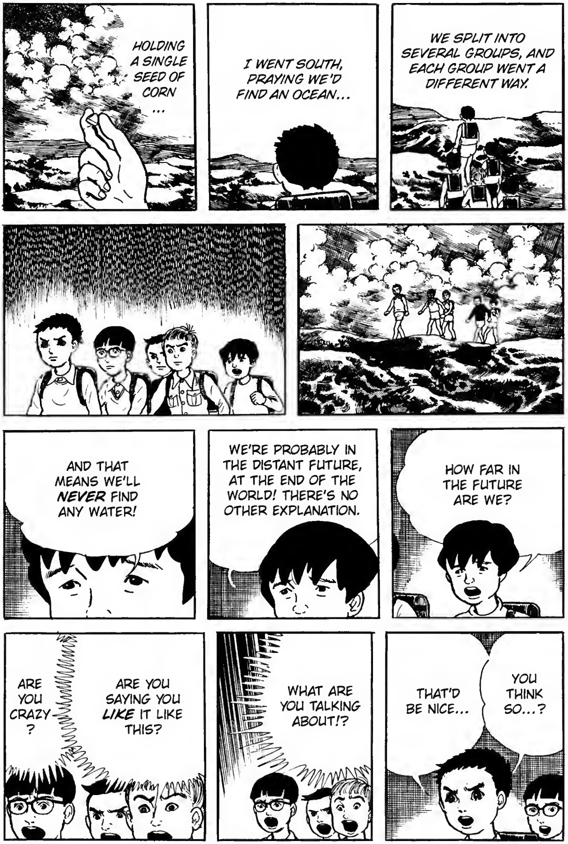

WHAT!?
UM, UH...WE SHOULD ALSO TURN OUR EXCREMENT INTO FOOD!
YEAH!
I KNOW HOW TO DO THAT! MY FAMILY ARE FARMERS!
AND WE CAN DRY IT AND USE IT FOR FERTILIZER!
W-WE CAN PUT IT IN WATER TO GROW CHLORELLA, AN EDIBLE ALGAE!
T-TAKAMATSU! IT'S AN EMERGENCY!
WE CAN BRING BACK THE POWER AGAIN! WE CAN USE OUR BIKE LIGHTS TO GENERATE ELECTRICITY!
I...I-I'M GOING TO TRY TO COME UP WITH A MATHEMATICAL FORMULA THAT'LL TAKE US BACK TO OUR WORLD!
STUMBLE
WHAT IS IT! WHAT'S GOING ON!?
THERE'S A CRACK! A *CRACK!*

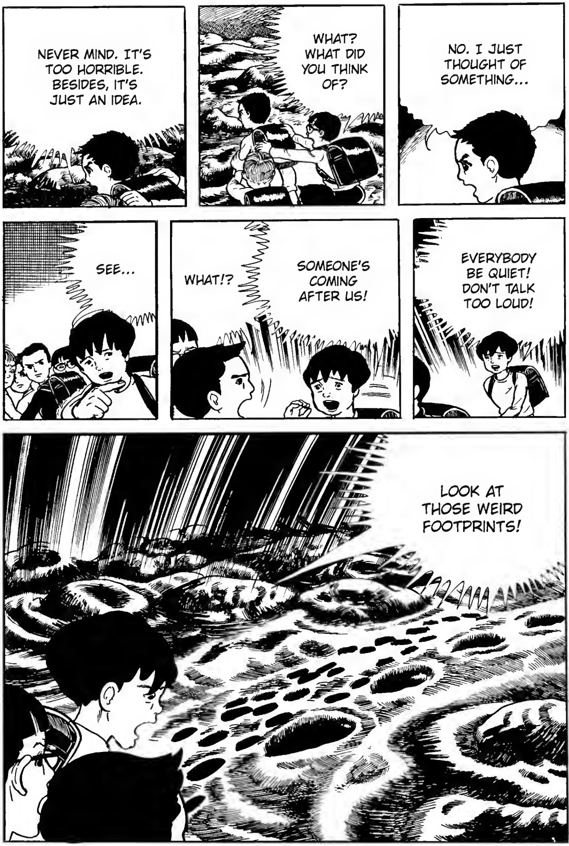
# CHAPTER 25

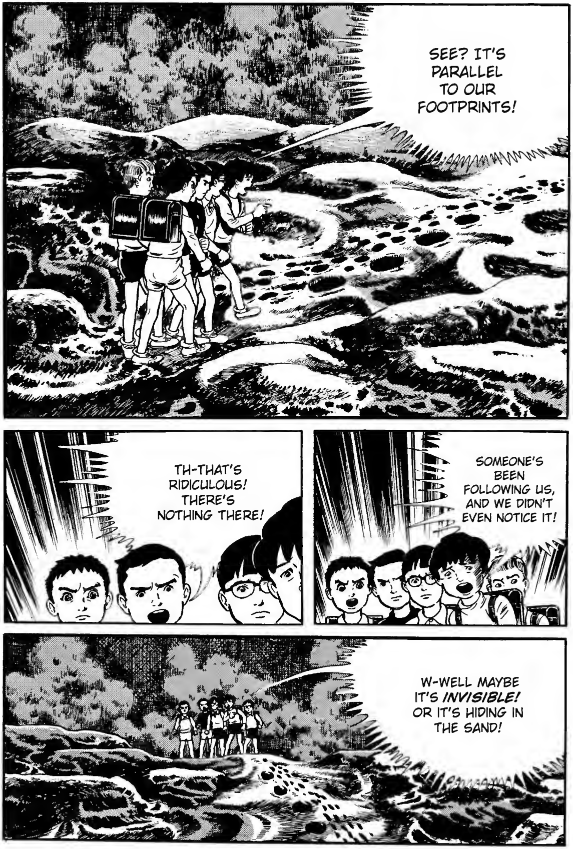
# THE FADING LIGHT

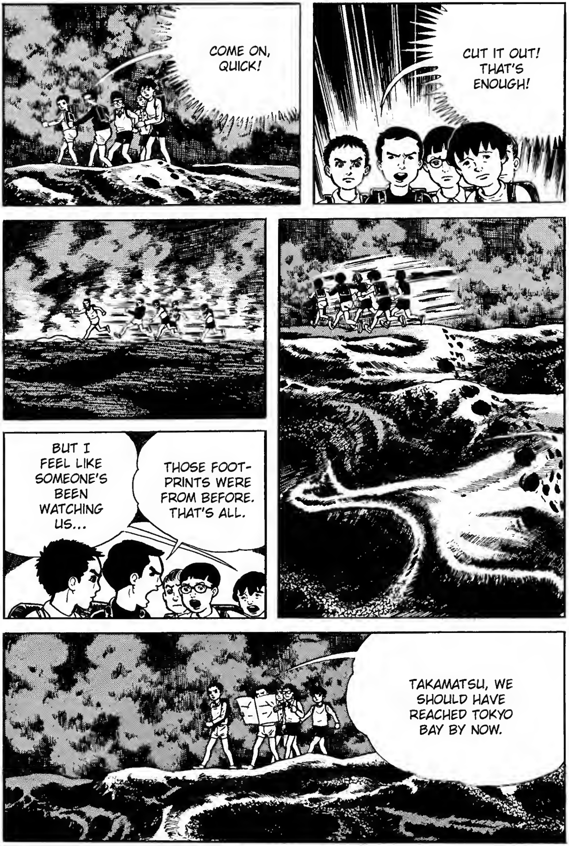

OH NO!
A CRACK IN THE POOL!?
THE WATER ...!

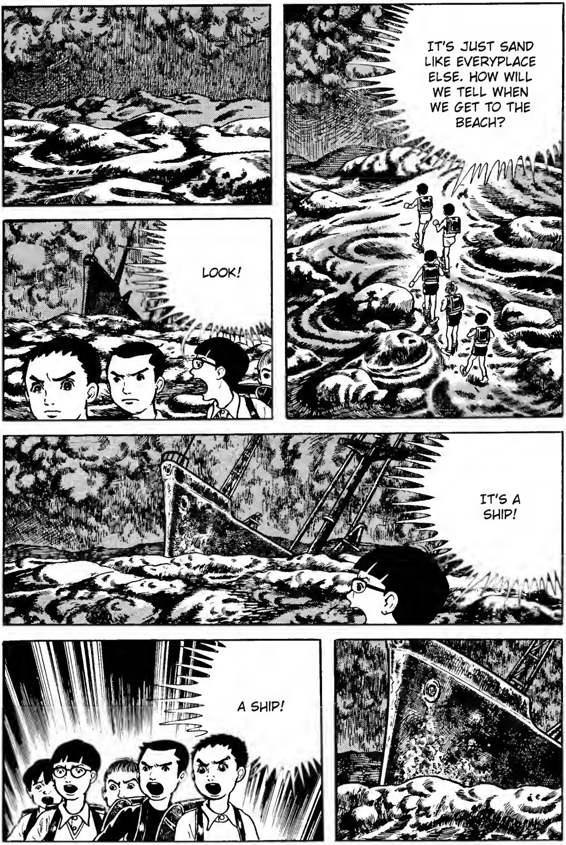

WE'RE FINISHED!
WE'LL BE DEAD IN A WEEK WITHOUT WATER!
THEN WE HAVE TO GO FIND SOME!
GET ALL THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS! WE HAVE TO SPLIT INTO GROUPS AND SCOUT IN EVERY DIRECTION!
SAKI, YOU HAVE TO LOOK AFTER THE OTHERS!
ALL RIGHT!
SHO...!
WHAT ABOUT NISHI?
SHE'S STILL UNCONSCIOUS!

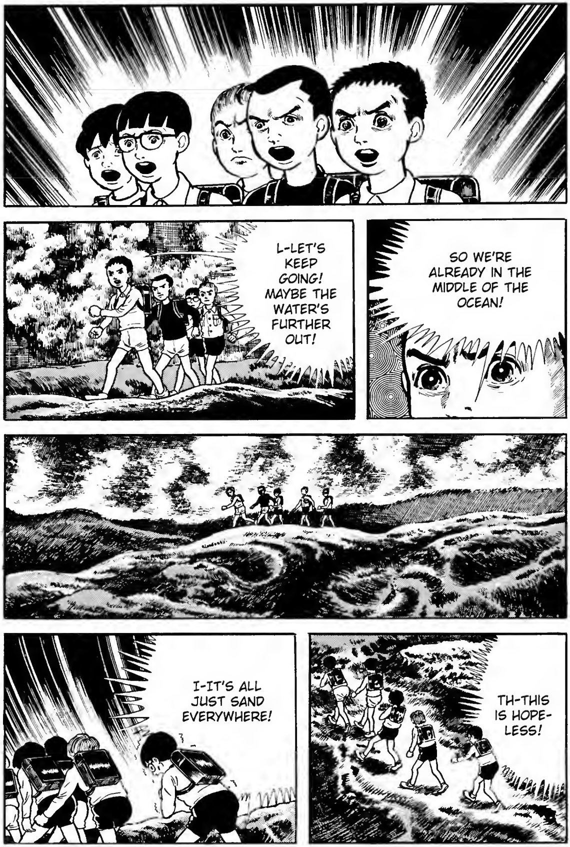

WE SPLIT INTO SEVERAL GROUPS, AND EACH GROUP WENT A DIFFERENT WAY.
I WENT SOUTH, PRAYING WE'D FIND AN OCEAN...
HOLDING A SINGLE SEED OF CORN ...
HOW FAR IN THE FUTURE ARE WE?
WE'RE PROBABLY IN THE DISTANT FUTURE, AT THE END OF THE WORLD! THERE'S NO OTHER EXPLANATION.
AND THAT MEANS WE'LL ***NEVER*** FIND ANY WATER!
YOU THINK SO...?
THAT'D BE NICE...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?
ARE YOU SAYING YOU ***LIKE*** IT LIKE THIS?
ARE YOU CRAZY?

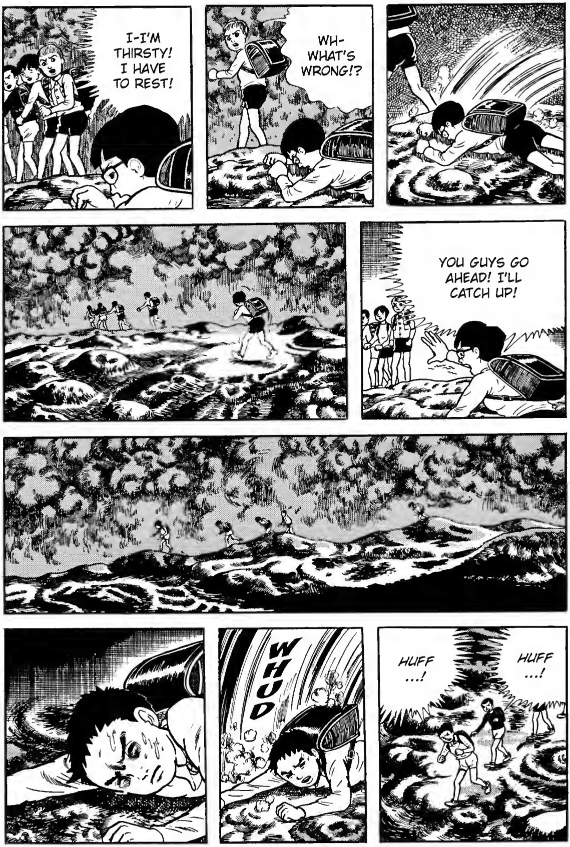

NO. I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHING...
WHAT? WHAT DID YOU THINK OF?
NEVER MIND. IT'S TOO HORRIBLE. BESIDES, IT'S JUST AN IDEA.
EVERYBODY BE QUIET! DON'T TALK TOO LOUD!
SOMEONE'S COMING AFTER US!
WHAT!?
SEE...
LOOK AT THOSE WEIRD FOOTPRINTS!

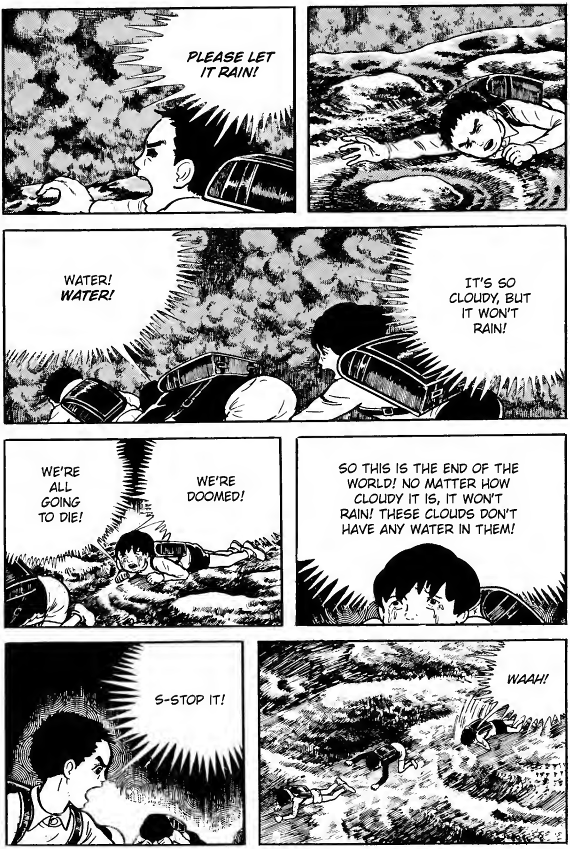

SEE? IT'S PARALLEL TO OUR FOOTPRINTS!
TH-THAT'S RIDICULOUS! THERE'S NOTHING THERE!
SOMEONE'S BEEN FOLLOWING US, AND WE DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE IT!
W-WELL MAYBE IT'S ***INVISIBLE!*** OR IT'S HIDING IN THE SAND!

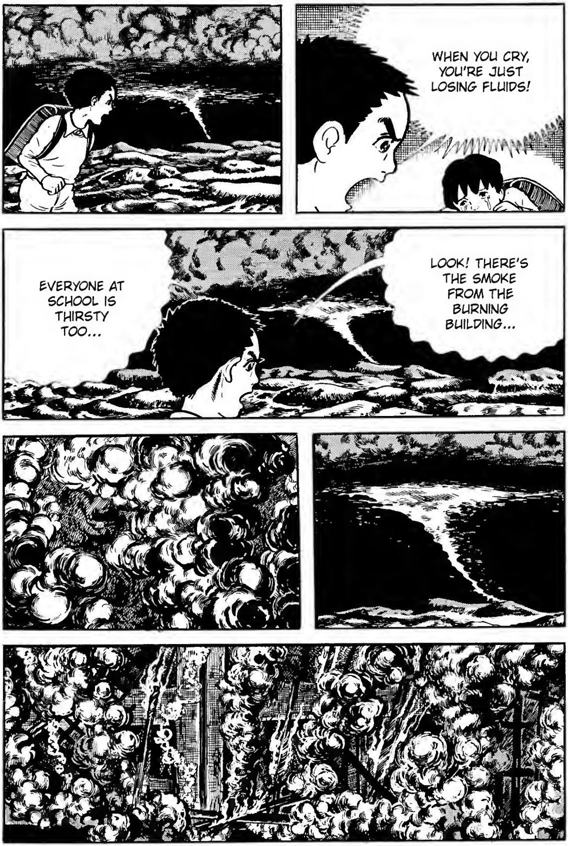

CUT IT OUT! THAT'S ENOUGH!
COME ON, QUICK!
THOSE FOOTPRINTS WERE FROM BEFORE. THAT'S ALL.
BUT I FEEL LIKE SOMEONE'S BEEN WATCHING US...
TAKAMATSU, WE SHOULD HAVE REACHED TOKYO BAY BY NOW.

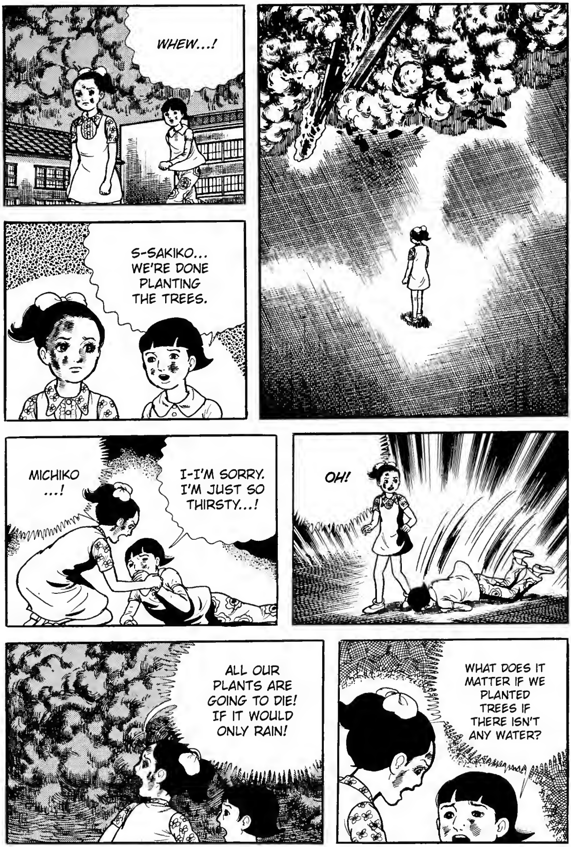

IT'S JUST SAND LIKE EVERYPLACE ELSE. HOW WILL WE TELL WHEN WE GET TO THE BEACH?
LOOK!
IT'S A SHIP!
A SHIP!

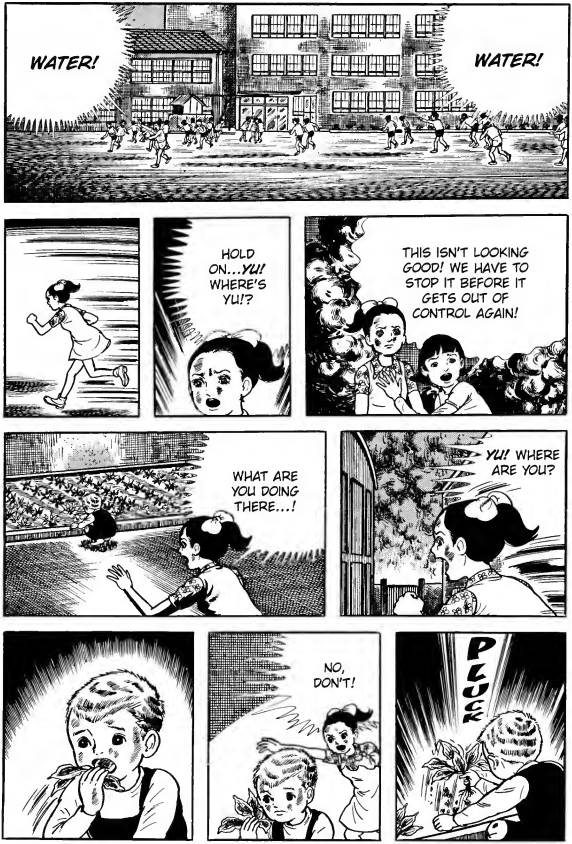

SO WE'RE ALREADY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE OCEAN!
L-LET'S KEEP GOING! MAYBE THE WATER'S FURTHER OUT!
TH-THIS IS HOPELESS!
I-IT'S ALL JUST SAND EVERYWHERE!

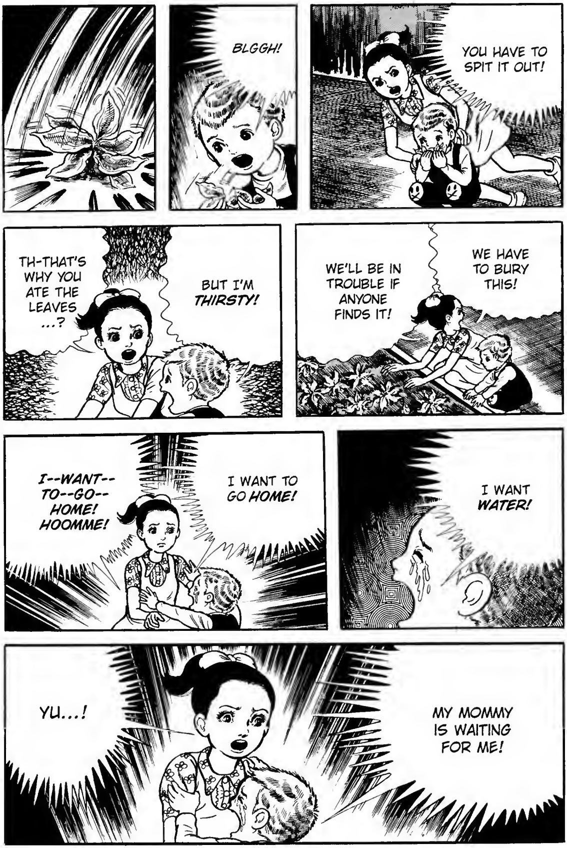

I-I'M THIRSTY! I HAVE TO REST!
WH- WHAT'S WRONG!?
YOU GUYS GO AHEAD! I'LL CATCH UP!
WHUD
HUFF ...!
HUFF ...!

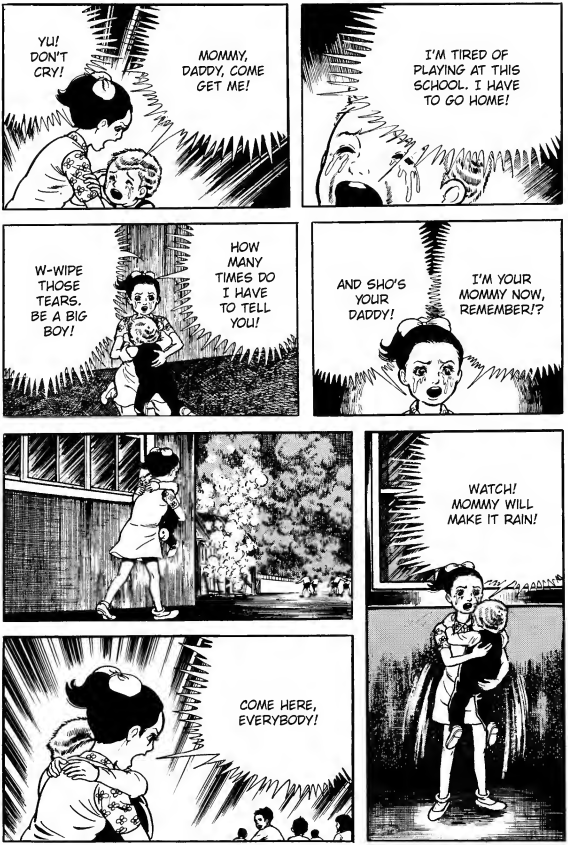

*PLEASE LET IT RAIN!*
WATER! *WATER!*
IT'S SO CLOUDY, BUT IT WON'T RAIN!
WE'RE ALL GOING TO DIE!
WE'RE DOOMED!
SO THIS IS THE END OF THE WORLD! NO MATTER HOW CLOUDY IT IS, IT WON'T RAIN! THESE CLOUDS DON'T HAVE ANY WATER IN THEM!
S-STOP IT!
*WAAH!*

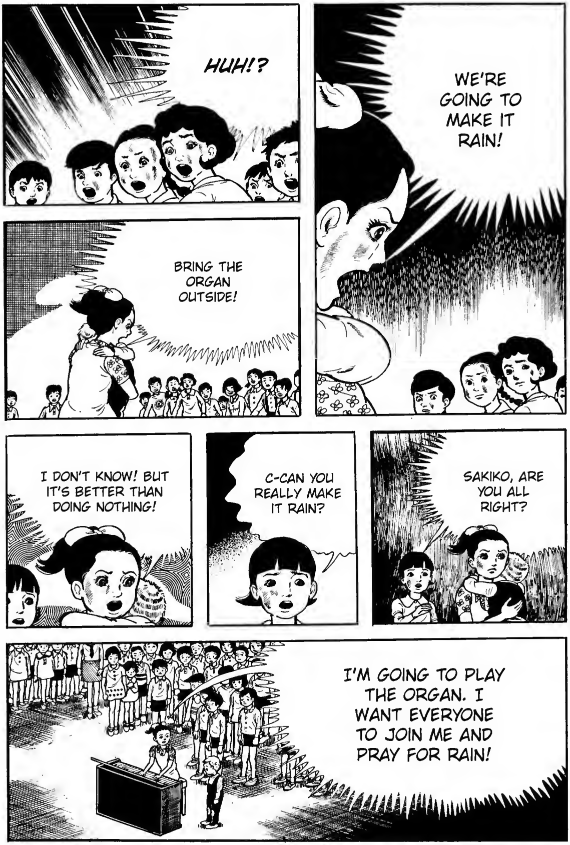

WHEN YOU CRY, YOU'RE JUST LOSING FLUIDS!
EVERYONE AT SCHOOL IS THIRSTY TOO...
LOOK! THERE'S THE SMOKE FROM THE BURNING BUILDING...

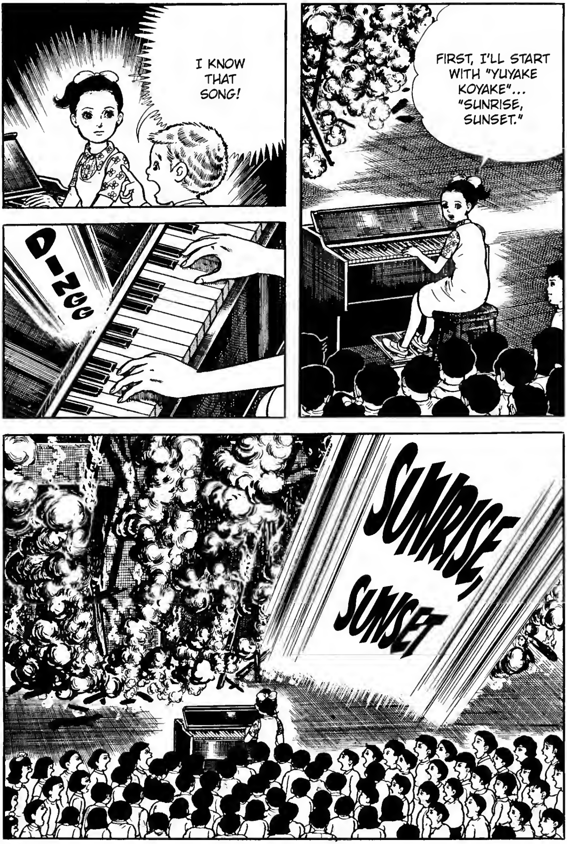

WHEW...!
S-SAKIKO... WE'RE DONE PLANTING THE TREES.
OH!
MICHIKO ...!
I-I'M SORRY. I'M JUST SO THIRSTY...!
WHAT DOES IT MATTER IF WE PLANTED TREES IF THERE ISN'T ANY WATER?
ALL OUR PLANTS ARE GOING TO DIE! IF IT WOULD ONLY RAIN!

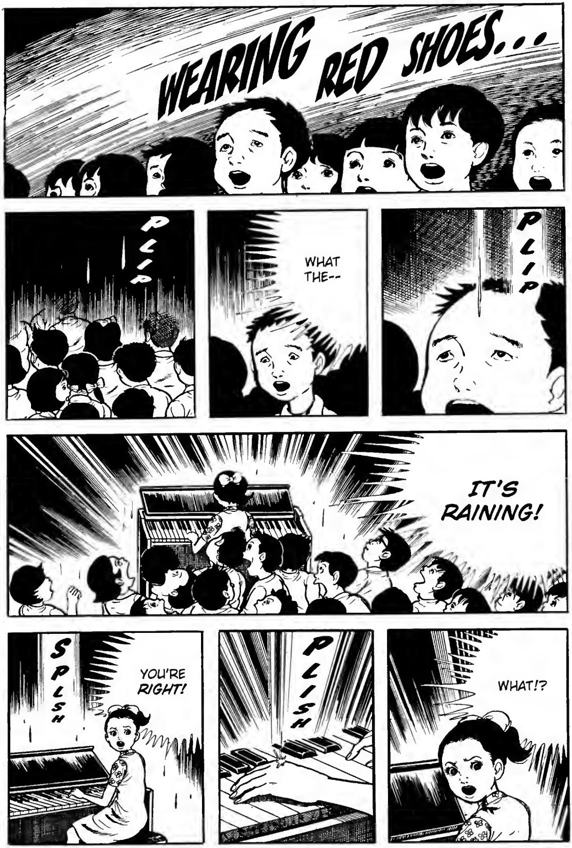

WATER!
WATER!
THIS ISN'T LOOKING GOOD! WE HAVE TO STOP IT BEFORE IT GETS OUT OF CONTROL AGAIN!
HOLD ON...*YU!* WHERE'S YU!?
*YU!* WHERE ARE YOU?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE...!
PLUCK
NO, DON'T!

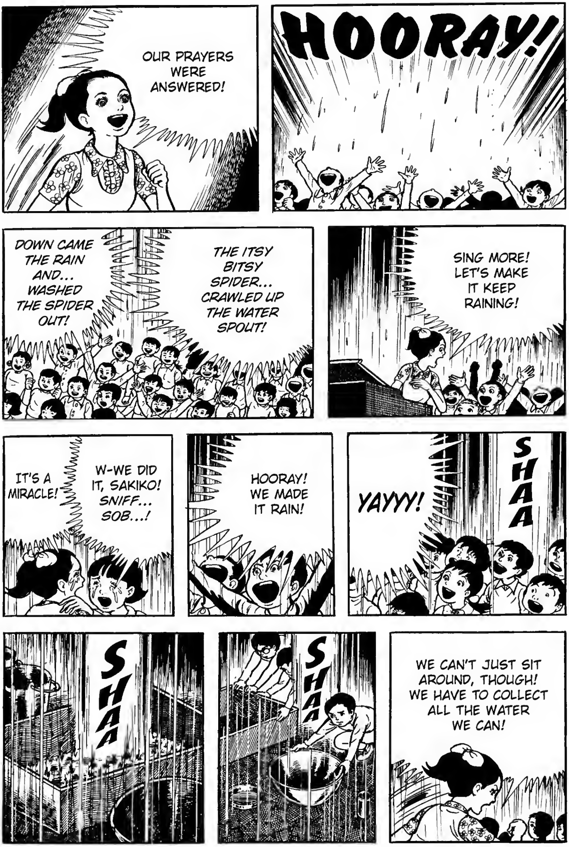

BLGGH!
YOU HAVE TO SPIT IT OUT!
TH-THAT'S WHY YOU ATE THE LEAVES ...?
BUT I'M *THIRSTY!*
WE'LL BE IN TROUBLE IF ANYONE FINDS IT!
WE HAVE TO BURY THIS!
*I--WANT--TO--GO--HOME! HOOMME!*
I WANT TO GO *HOME!*
I WANT *WATER!*
YU...!
MY MOMMY IS WAITING FOR ME!

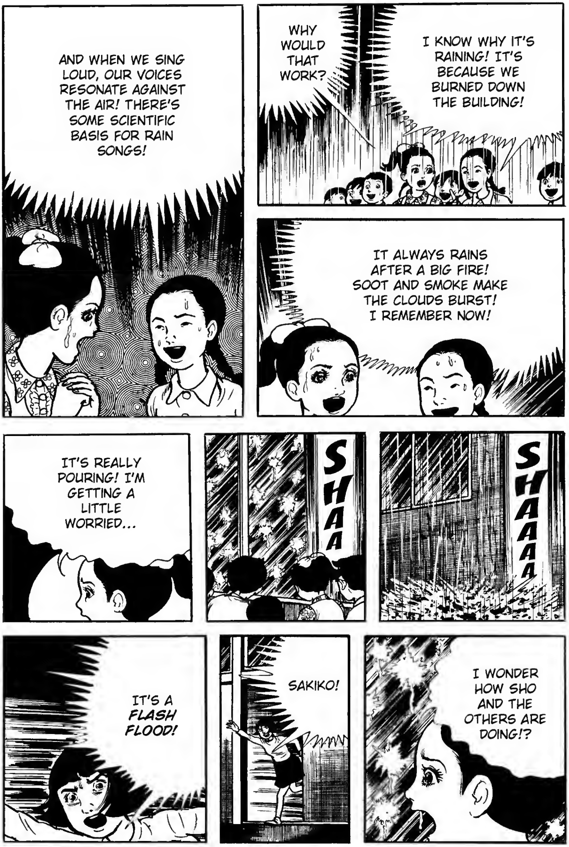

YU! DON'T CRY!
MOMMY, DADDY, COME GET ME!
I'M TIRED OF PLAYING AT THIS SCHOOL. I HAVE TO GO HOME!
W-WIPE THOSE TEARS. BE A BIG BOY!
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU!
AND SHO'S YOUR DADDY!
I'M YOUR MOMMY NOW, REMEMBER!?
WATCH! MOMMY WILL MAKE IT RAIN!
COME HERE, EVERYBODY!

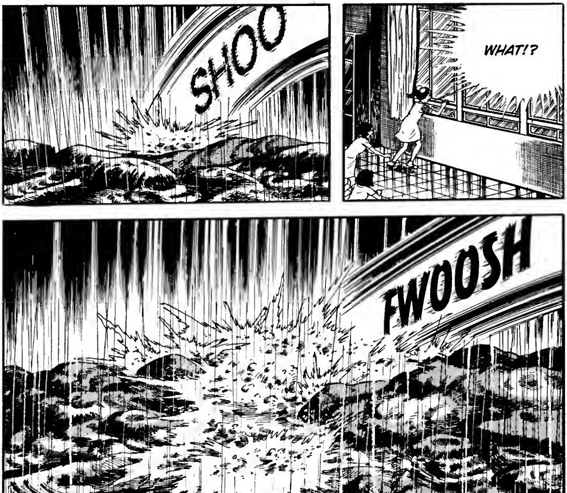

WE'RE GOING TO MAKE IT RAIN!
HUH!?
BRING THE ORGAN OUTSIDE!
SAKIKO, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
C-CAN YOU REALLY MAKE IT RAIN?
I DON'T KNOW! BUT IT'S BETTER THAN DOING NOTHING!
I'M GOING TO PLAY THE ORGAN. I WANT EVERYONE TO JOIN ME AND PRAY FOR RAIN!

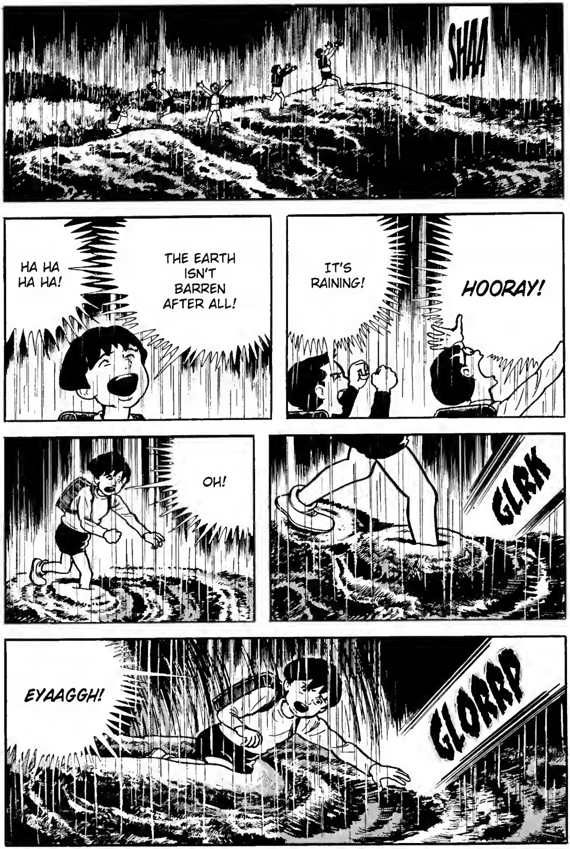

FIRST, I'LL START WITH "YUYAKE KOYAKE"... "SUNRISE, SUNSET."
I KNOW THAT SONG!
DINGG
SUNRISE, SUNSET

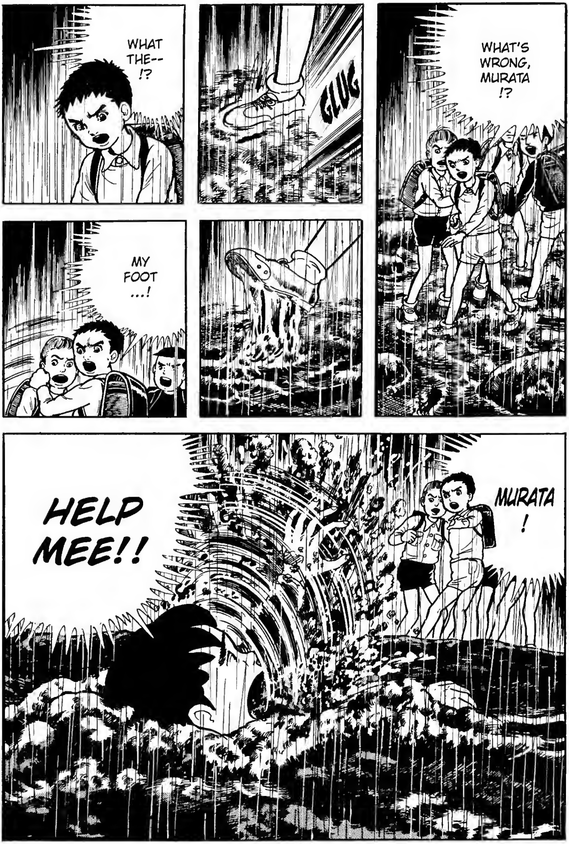

WEARING RED SHOES...
PLIP
WHAT THE--
PLIP
IT'S RAINING!
SPLSH
YOU'RE RIGHT!
PLISH
WHAT!?

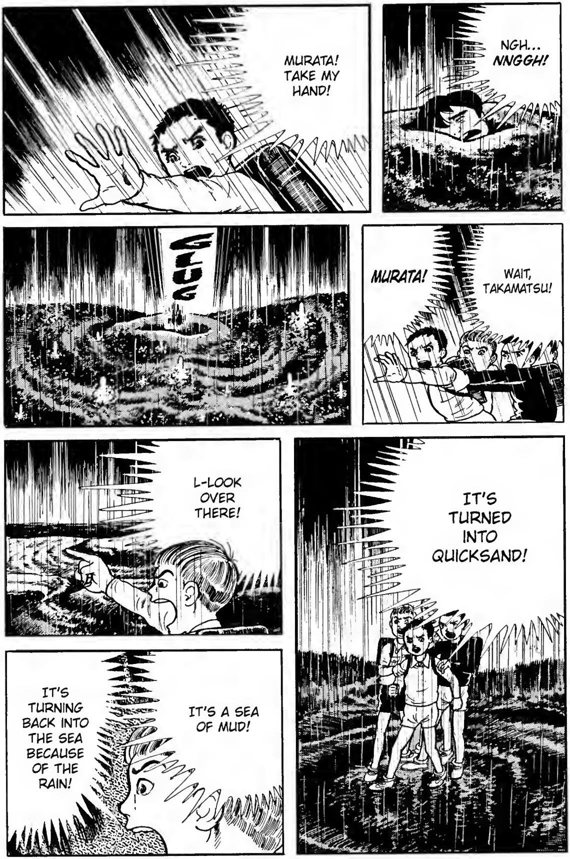

OUR PRAYERS WERE ANSWERED!
HOORAY!
THE ITSY BITSY SPIDER... CRAWLED UP THE WATER SPOUT!
DOWN CAME THE RAIN AND... WASHED THE SPIDER OUT!
SING MORE! LET'S MAKE IT KEEP RAINING!
IT'S A MIRACLE!
W-WE DID IT, SAKIKO! SNIFF... SOB...!
HOORAY! WE MADE IT RAIN!
YAYYY!
SHAA
SHAA
SHAA
WE CAN'T JUST SIT AROUND, THOUGH! WE HAVE TO COLLECT ALL THE WATER WE CAN!

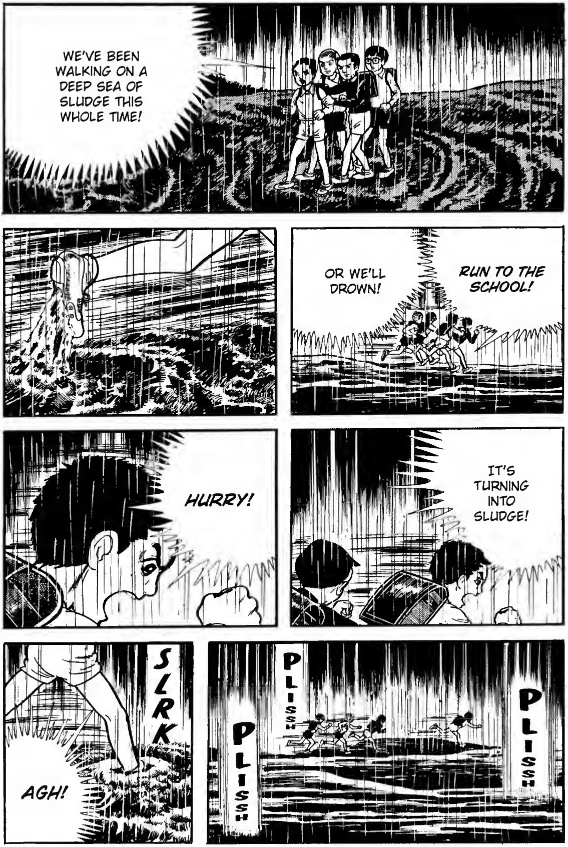

AND WHEN WE SING LOUD, OUR VOICES RESONATE AGAINST THE AIR! THERE'S SOME SCIENTIFIC BASIS FOR RAIN SONGS!
WHY WOULD THAT WORK?
I KNOW WHY IT'S RAINING! IT'S BECAUSE WE BURNED DOWN THE BUILDING!
IT ALWAYS RAINS AFTER A BIG FIRE! SOOT AND SMOKE MAKE THE CLOUDS BURST! I REMEMBER NOW!
IT'S REALLY POURING! I'M GETTING A LITTLE WORRIED...
SHAA
SHAAAAA
IT'S A FLASH FLOOD!
SAKIKO!
I WONDER HOW SHO AND THE OTHERS ARE DOING!?

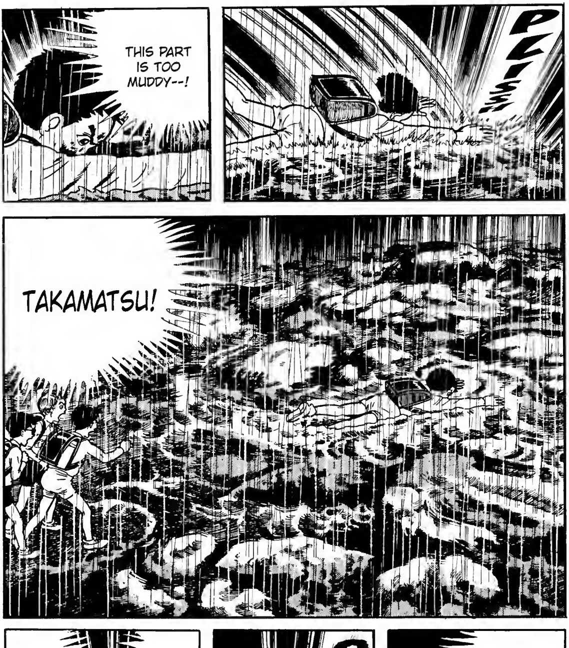

SHOO
WHAT!?
FWOOSH
IT'S HEADED RIGHT FOR US!

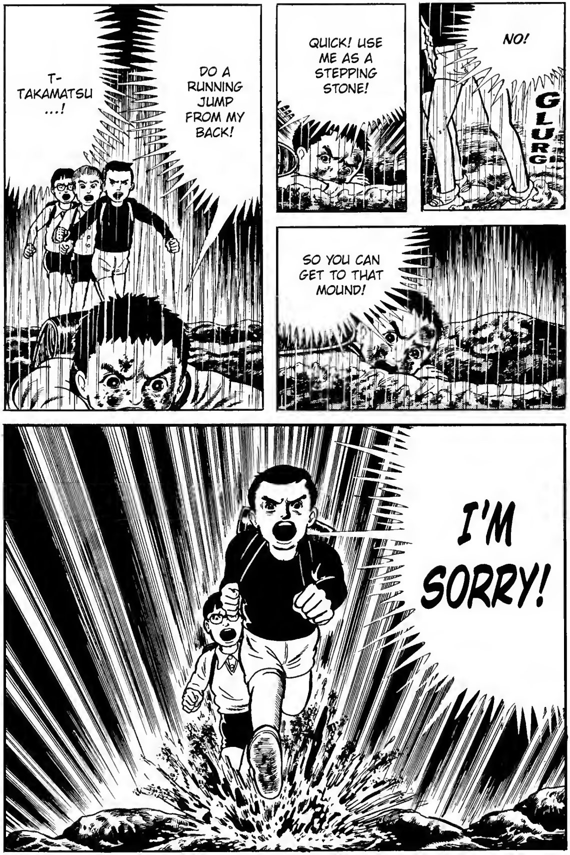

SHAA
HA HA HA HA!
THE EARTH ISN'T BARREN AFTER ALL!
IT'S RAINING!
HOORAY!
OH!
GLRK
EYAAGGH!
GLORRP

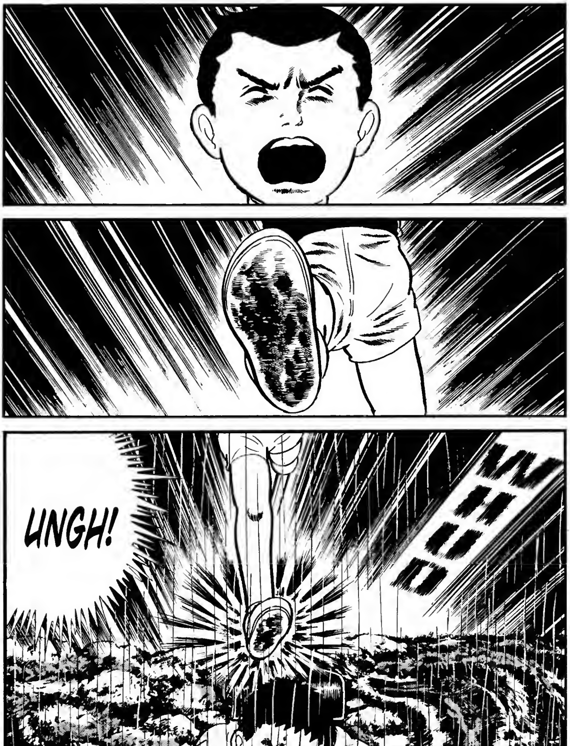

WHAT THE-- !?
GLUG
WHAT'S WRONG, MURATA !?
MY FOOT ...!
HELP MEE!!
MURATA !

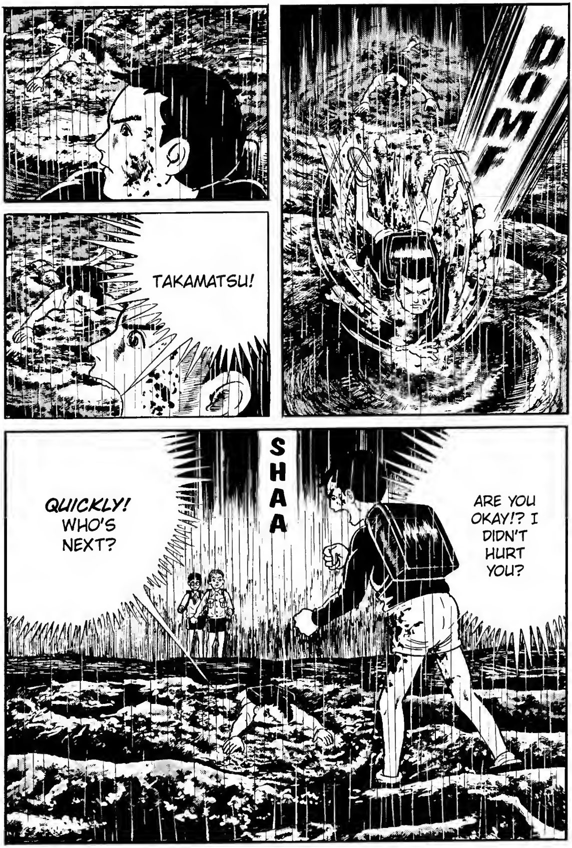

MURATA! TAKE MY HAND!
NGH... *NNGGH!*
GLUG
*MURATA!*
WAIT, TAKAMATSU!
L-LOOK OVER THERE!
IT'S A SEA OF MUD!
IT'S TURNING BACK INTO THE SEA BECAUSE OF THE RAIN!
IT'S TURNED INTO QUICKSAND!

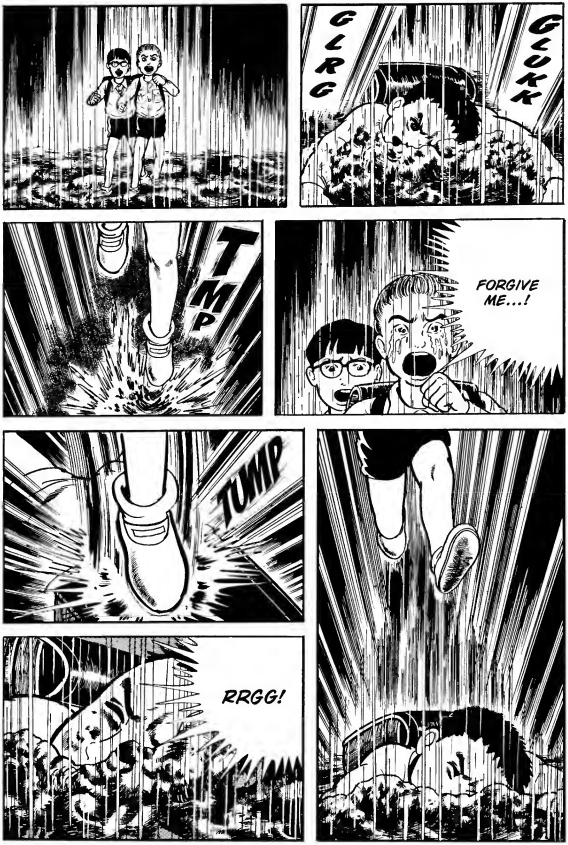

WE'VE BEEN WALKING ON A DEEP SEA OF SLUDGE THIS WHOLE TIME!
RUN TO THE SCHOOL!
OR WE'LL DROWN!
IT'S TURNING INTO SLUDGE!
HURRY!
PLISSH
PLISSH
PLISSH
SLRK
AGH!

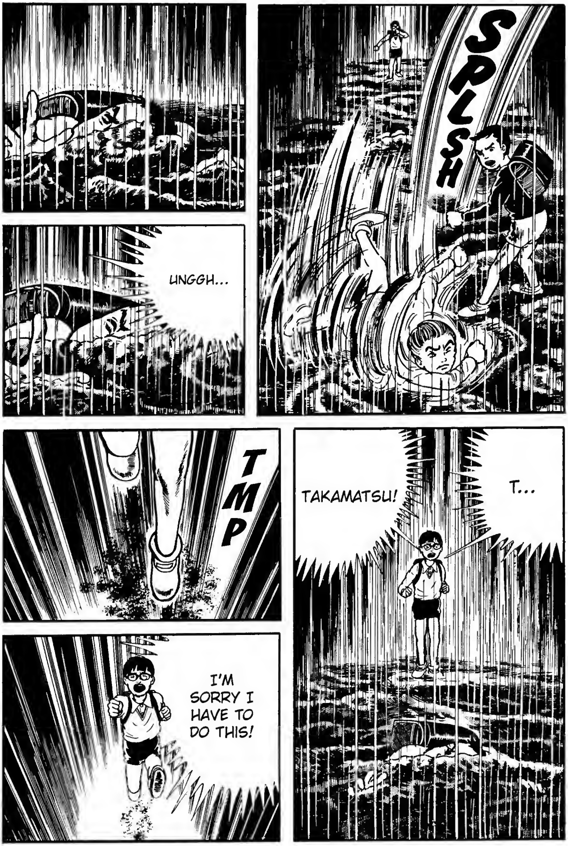

THIS PART IS TOO MUDDY--!
PLISH
TAKAMATSU!
TAKA-MATSU!
OH NO!
GLRRG
I-I CAN'T GET UP!

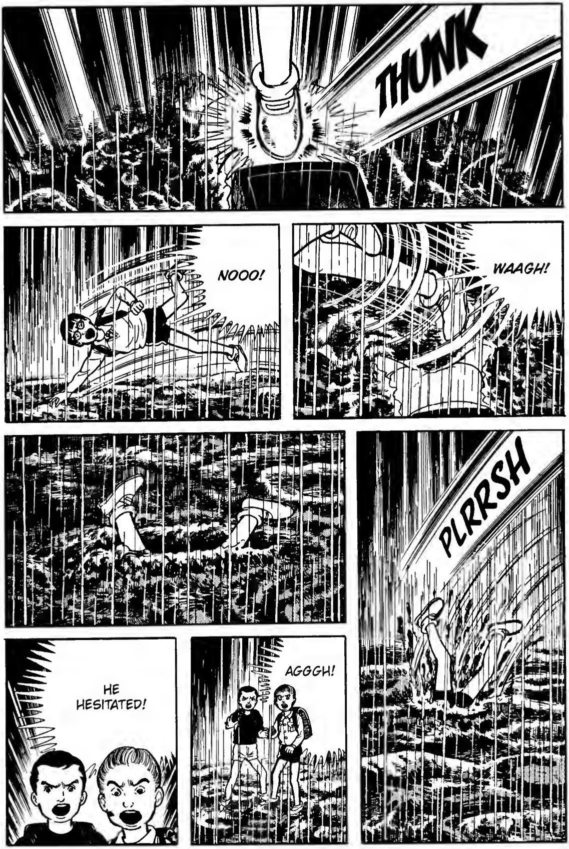

NO!
GLURG
QUICK! USE ME AS A STEPPING STONE!
SO YOU CAN GET TO THAT MOUND!
DO A RUNNING JUMP FROM MY BACK!
T-TAKAMATSU...!
I'M SORRY!

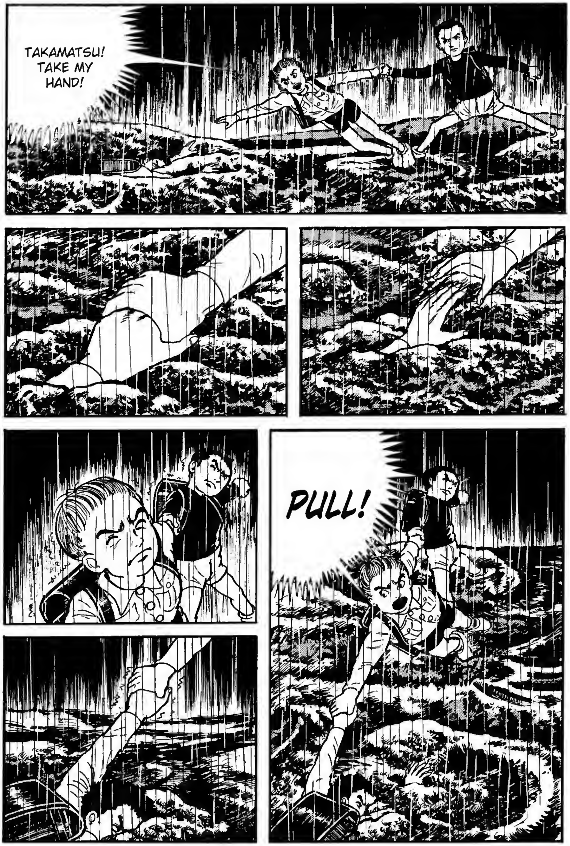

THUD
UNGH!

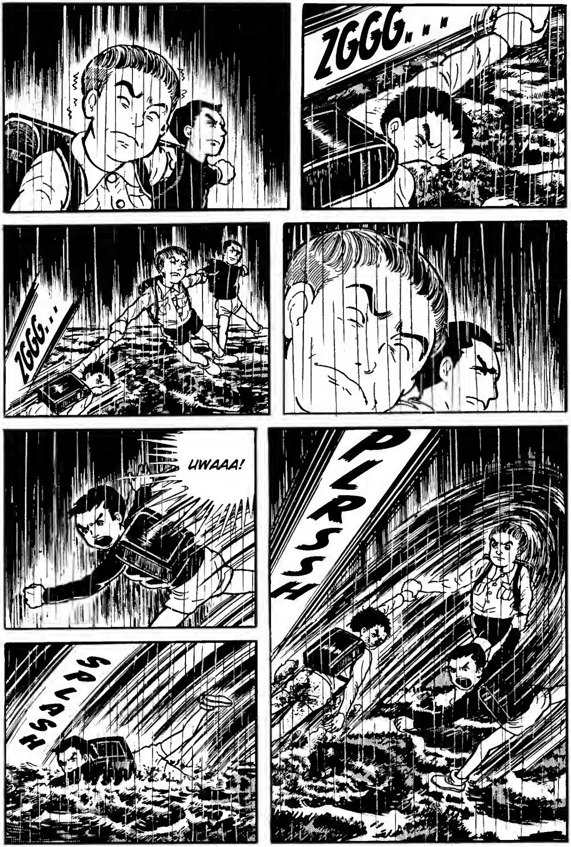

DOMF
TAKAMATSU!
ARE YOU OKAY!? I DIDN'T HURT YOU?
SHAA
*QUICKLY!* WHO'S NEXT?

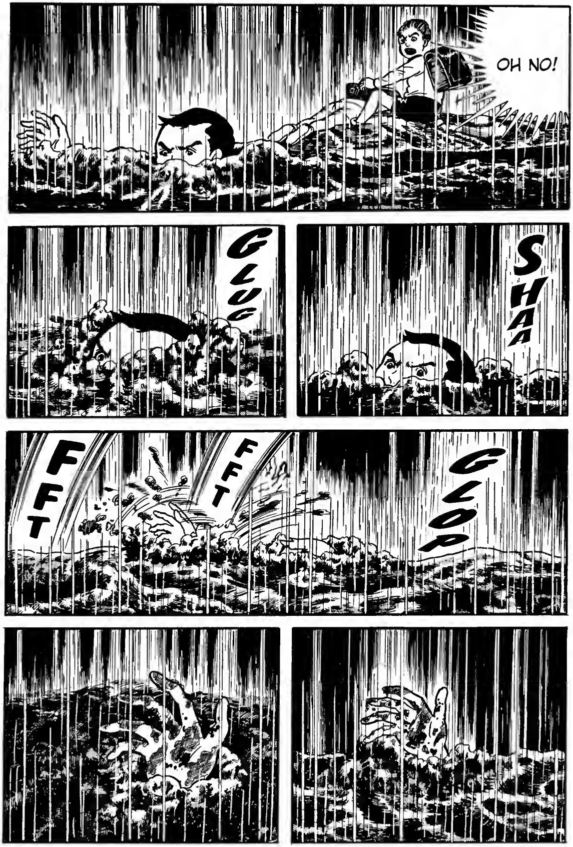

GLUKK
GLRG
FORGIVE ME...!
TMP
TUMP
RRGG!

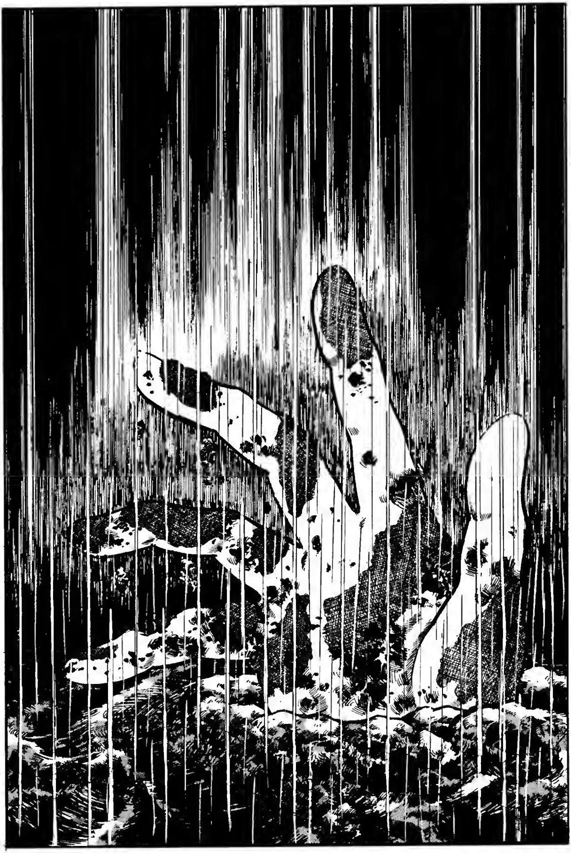

SPLSH
UNGGH...
T...
TAKAMATSU!
TMP
I'M SORRY I HAVE TO DO THIS!

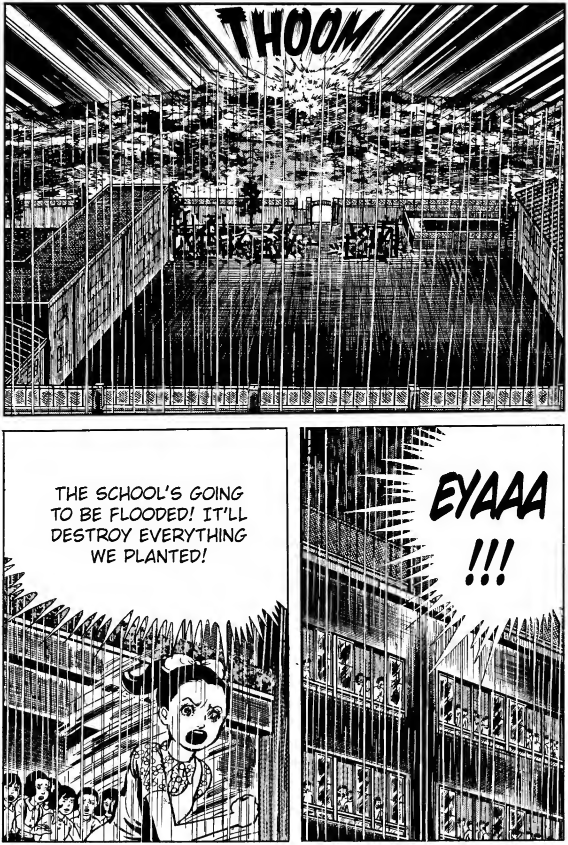

THUNK
WAAGH!
NOOO!
PLRRSH
AGGGH!
HE HESITATED!

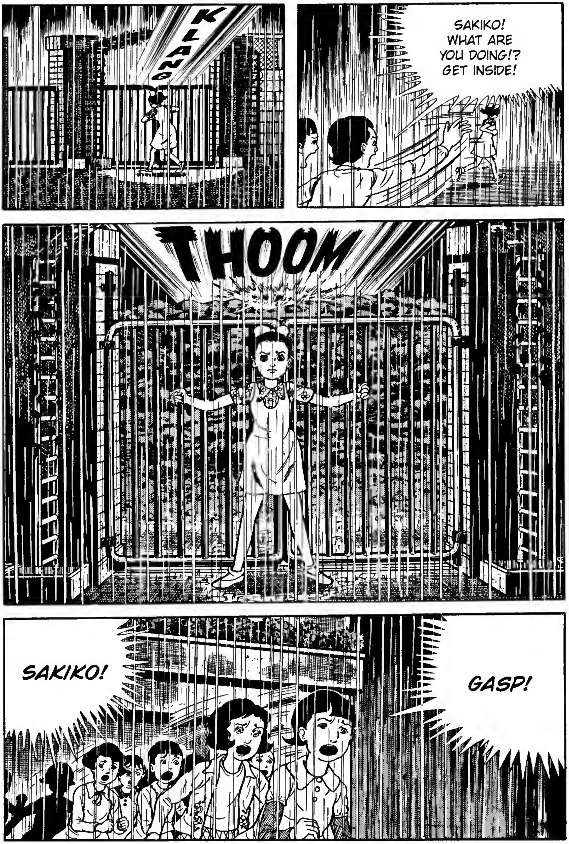

TAKAMATSU! TAKE MY HAND!
PULL!

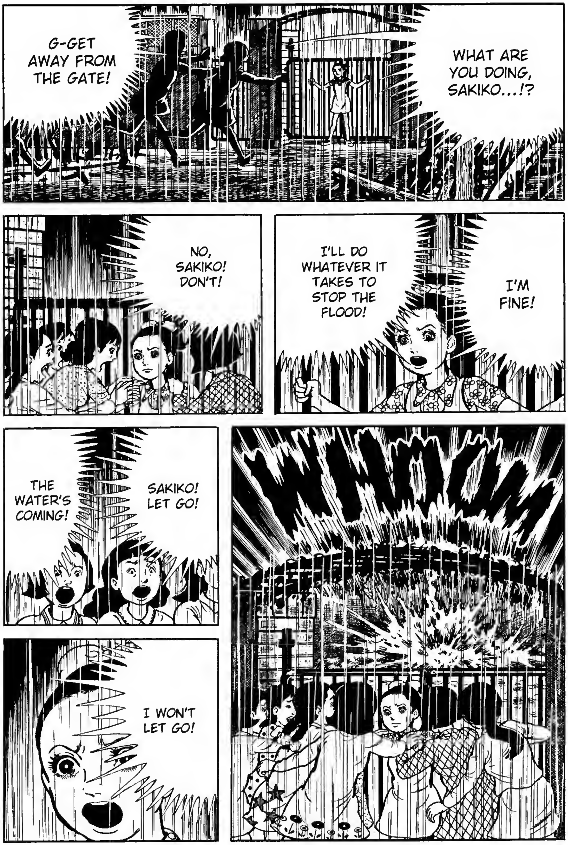

ZGGG...
ZGGG...
PLRSSH
UWAAA!
SPLASH

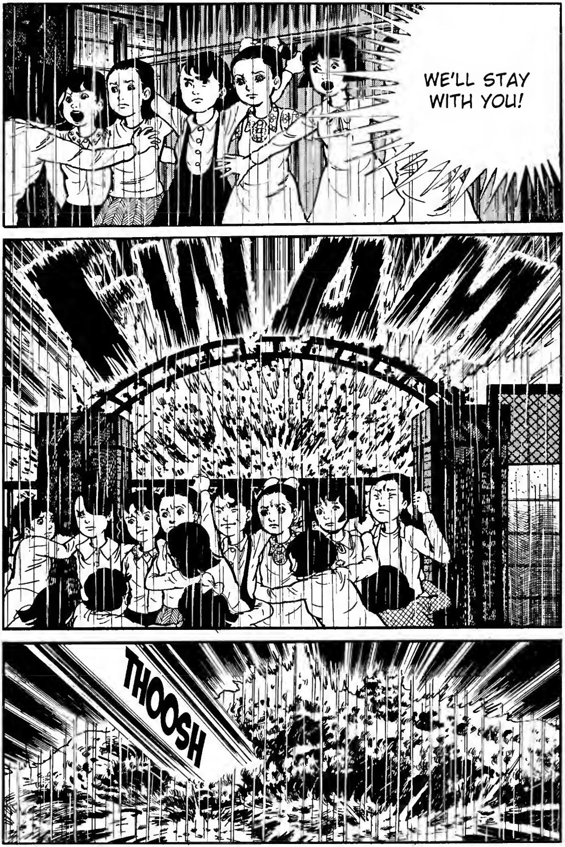

OH NO!
GLUG
SHAA
FFFT
FFFT
GLOP

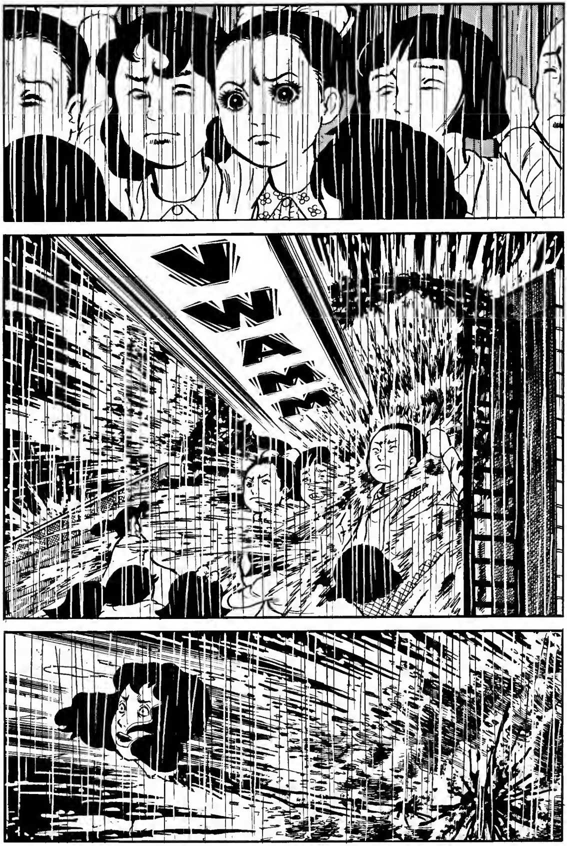


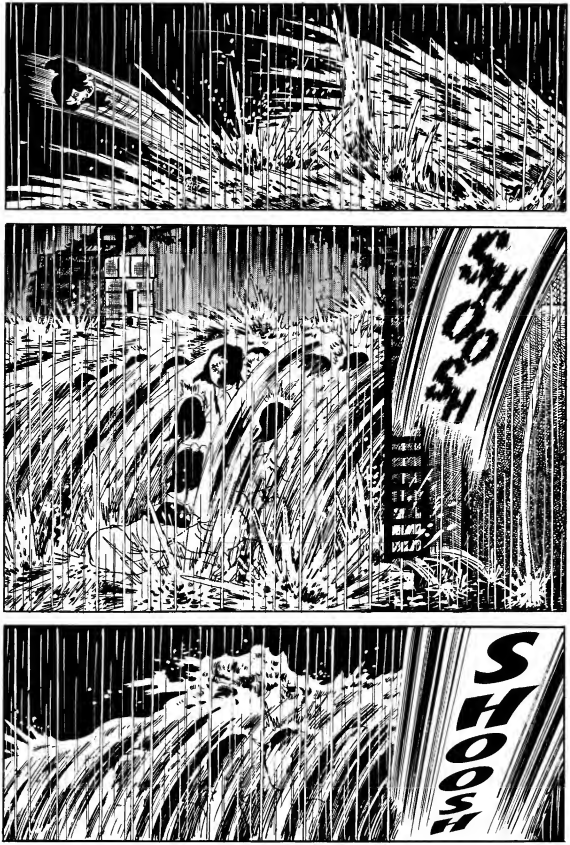

THOOM
EYAAA !!!
THE SCHOOL'S GOING TO BE FLOODED! IT'LL DESTROY EVERYTHING WE PLANTED!

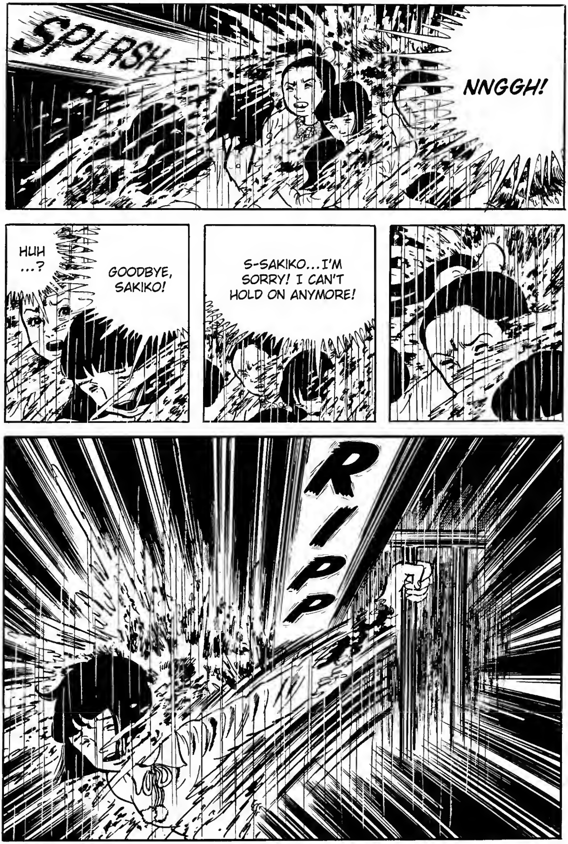

KLANG
SAKIKO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING!? GET INSIDE!
THOOM
SAKIKO!
GASP!


G-GET AWAY FROM THE GATE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, SAKIKO...!?
NO, SAKIKO! DON'T!
I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO STOP THE FLOOD!
I'M FINE!
THE WATER'S COMING!
SAKIKO! LET GO!
I WON'T LET GO!
WHOOM


WE'LL STAY WITH YOU!
THOOSH


WWAMM


SHOOSH
SHOOSH


NNGGH!
SPLASH
S-SAKIKO...I'M SORRY! I CAN'T HOLD ON ANYMORE!
GOODBYE, SAKIKO!
HUH ...?
RIPP

TO BE CONTINUED...